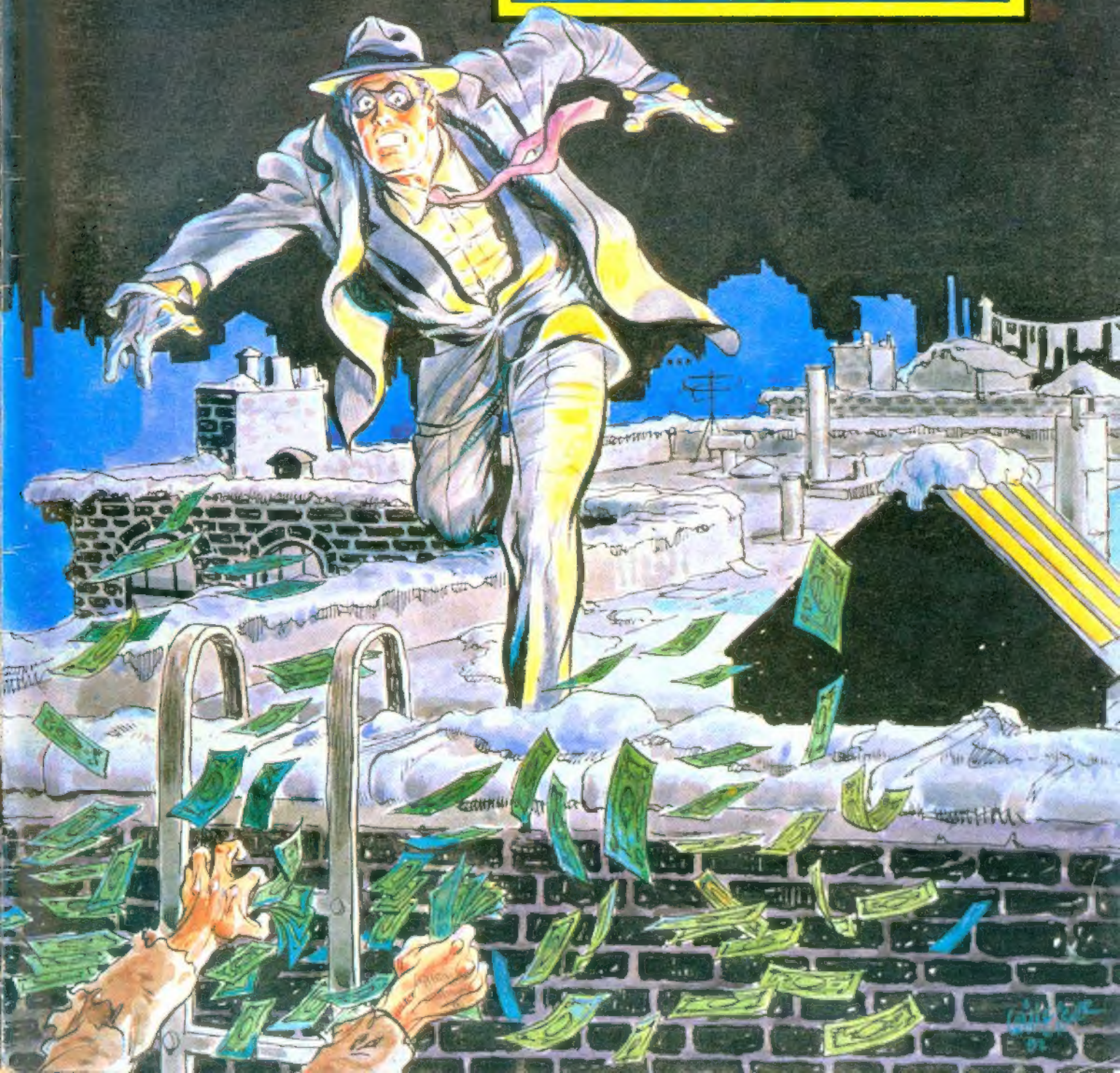




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# THE DEPT. OF LOOSE ENDS...

**W**ill Eisner's Christmas stories have always had an enthusiastic following, especially among the more sentimental of his fans. Requests to reprint Christmas episodes are among the most frequent we receive, and those who ask for them usually make mention of Will's true understanding of the Christmas Spirit. That fact that Will is Jewish doesn't seem to bother anybody much, if indeed they ever stop to think about the irony of a Jew presenting the world with this abundance of heart-warming Christmas joy. Will himself has never made mention of the paradox, but one suspects he doesn't care what the occasion is, just so he can weave a little fable about human kindness and hope.

The first "Christmas Spirit" appeared on December 22, 1940, and with the exception of the periods when ghost artists handled the series, there was one every year thereafter. Our two examples this time date from both the pre-war and post-war portions of the strip. First is the 1941 episode, printed a little late on December 28, 1941. This one features a young boy named variously *Hobo King* or *King Hobo*, depending on which story one chooses as the definitive one in regard to his name. "The Christmas Spirit: A Trilogy" served to introduce young King. He made a reappearance very shortly in the February 22, 1942 story, "The Ghost of Post 13." His third and last appearance came in "Rejected," a tragic tale originally printed on September 27, 1942, featuring Lou Fine's inks over Will's pencils. The ending of that story is so sad — and so inconclusive — that I once asked Will why he had left poor Hobo King in the lurch and never written another story about him. Eisner's reply was a shocked gasp of disbelief. "You mean I just left him like that?! I... I guess I just forgot about him during the War and never got back to him... poor kid." Poor kid, indeed. But for just this one time, Hobo King finds a bit of happiness and love, in a story which will bring a tear to the eye of the tender-hearted.

The story of S. Kringle Claus, first published on December 25, 1949, is a bit broader, combining humour with the moral "message" but once again playing off the question of whether there really is a Santa Claus. It wouldn't be unfair to say that Eisner treats the existence of Santa Claus in much the same way he treats aliens from outer space, goblins, cursed artifacts and other embodiments of mythology and religion. There is never a direct conclusion drawn, but powerful chains of circumstantial evidence always point to the existence of some higher power for good. What more could one ask in the way of a Christmas story from a Jew?

Leaving the realm of silver bells and snowy nights, we journey to our next loose end. The setting is the South Pacific, and the occasion is fitting the "missing" story into the previously reprinted series which took The Spirit on a cruise to parts unknown in search of adventure. Here's a quick checklist of the South Pacific series, with reprint sources for those who want to read the episodes in their proper order:

- (7/10/49) "Lilly Lotus" (in this issue)
- (7/17/49) "Sally of the Islands" (Warren No.15)
- (7/24/49) "Willie Ankle" ("The Masked Man") (Warren No.15)
- (7/31/49) "The Ball Game" (Warren No.15)
- (8/7/49) "Matua" (Warren No.15)
- (8/14/49) "The Return" (Warren No.5)

The star of the first South Pacific story, Lilly Lotus, was one of Eisner's many, many beautiful female characters who exhibited criminal tendencies or at least consorted with criminals. The very first of these women, *The Black Queen*, is also present in this issue — in our colour section. Since she appeared in the third Spirit story ever written, it's easy to see that Will was fascinated with the type early on. The Black Queen made but one more appearance, in the sixth Spirit section — so we can look for her return in only three more issues.

—catherine yronwode

## Will Eisner's SPIRIT MAGAZINE

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**WILL EISNER**

EDITOR & PUBLISHER

**DENIS KITCHEN**

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

**CAT YRONWODE**

DESIGN

**PETER POPLASKI**

CIRCULATION

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PROMOTION

**HOWARD CAPLAN**

SUBSCRIPTIONS

**DOREEN RILEY**

DESIGN ASSISTANTS

**BOB PIZZO**

**RAY FEHRENBACH**

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- 3... *The Christmas Spirit*. Three wise tramps relate the true meaning of Christmas to the Hobo King.
- 13... *Lilly Lotus*. The Spirit leaves Central City for the South Pacific. See Cat's column at left for loose ends.
- 21... *The Christmas Spirit*. Nothing can stop Santa from his appointed rounds.
- 29... *The Black Queen*. The third Spirit section, in full color.
- 37... *Walls*. Seventeen new Eisner pages from the "Big City" project.
- 56... *Willum and the Baron*.
- 64... Letters.

### DECEMBER 1982 • NO.38

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9-3

# THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

BY  
Will Eisner

And so it was on ---- Christmas ----  
when the boom of distant cannon mingled with  
the churchbells, that there came out of the east  
three wise men to a city called ----



And whereupon they entered and besought the king...



And lo, when they had seen the hardness of this king,  
they unfolded to him three tales -- whereof they  
besought him to think upon and reform his ways...





## First Dramp's Tale

IT WAS LAST CHRISTMAS, WHEN ME AND ANOTHER HOBO I MET WAS WAITIN' TO HOP A TRAIN THAT WAS COALING IN A TANKTOWN STOP .....

SUDDENLY, A LIGHT IN THE PULLMAN CAUGHT ME EYE ... I WALKED TOWARD IT ... I DON'T KNOW WHY ... AS IF DRAWN BY AN IN-VISIBLE FORCE!!



OH...HYA...  
I...ER...

HELLO! MERRY CHRISTMAS!



IT'S PRETTY COLD RIDING THE RODS... HAVE A BITE... HERE...

TH... THANKS, BUT...



NONSENSE, LAD!!  
YULETIDE ...  
HO HO HO!!

I...



?

?



WHAT'S WRONG, CONDUCTOR?

THIS TRAMP JUST KILLED A BRAKE-MAN !!



GOOD GRIEF!!  
IF I'DA STAYED OUT THERE ONE MINUTE LONGER, I'DA BEEN ARRESTED TOO!!

YEAH...A MIRACLE YOU CAME IN WHEN YOU DID!!



WELL, SANTA, YOU'VE GIVEN ME QUITE A CHRISTMAS GIFT...MY LIFE!!

HO HO HO  
HO HO HO  
I'VE MADE A GOOD START!!



I'M ON MY WAY TO HAY'S DEPARTMENT STORE IN CENTRAL CITY!! I'M A HOBO, TOO!! I JUS' GOT THIS JOB FOR CHRISTMAS... I'M SANTA IN THE TOY DEPARTMENT!!



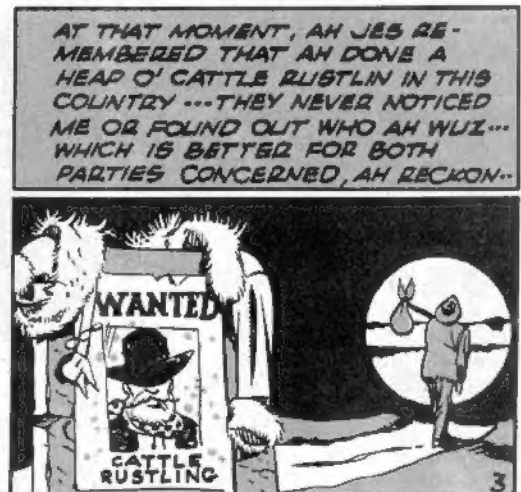


## Second Tramp's Tale

ONE YULETIDE AH WUZ STUMBLIN' THROUGH THE RIO GRANDE COUNTRY AND IT WHARNT LAK THE KINDA CHRISTMAS Y'SEE AWN NICKLE CAHDS ... NAW SIR ... IT WUZ NOT --AN THE ALKALI DUST MADE MAH SIX WEEKS BEARD SNOW WHITE ...



AND SO--NEXT THING Y'KNOW I'M COMIN' T'SEE THE DYIN' KID DRESSED AS SANTA CLAUS----







## Third Tramp's Tale

IN A LAND WHERE CHRISTMAS HAD LONG AGO BEEN ABOLISHED, THERE LIVED A POWERFUL EMPEROR WHO HAD MANY ARMIES AND CONQUERED MANY CITIES...

WELL, ONE CHRISTMAS, ANGROFF, THE EMPEROR, MARCHED INTO THE ANCIENT CITY OF HAMELBURG WITH HIS VICTORIOUS LEGIONS... AND EVEN THOUGH THE SNOW FELL HEAVILY, HIS AGENTS MADE THE PEOPLE LINE THE STREETS TO WATCH THE VICTORY MARCH OF THEIR CONQUERORS...



...AND AS WAS HIS HABIT, HE DISTRIBUTED FLOWERS TO HIS CAPTIVES...



THIS TIME A CHILD'S FACE CAUGHT HIS EYE, AND HE LEANED OVER...



...AND TO EVEN HIS OWN ASTONISHMENT, KISSED HER ON THE CHEEK...



...AND THAT NIGHT...

...AND PLEASE, SANTA EVEN IF YOU CAN'T BRING ONE TO US -- BRING A GIFT TO THAT KIND MAN WHO KISSED ME, AND GAVE ME A FLOWER!



--AND SO --LATER, IN THE PALACE OCCUPIED BY ANGROFF --

BUT, HIGHNESS, IF WE TAKE THE PEOPLE'S FOOD FOR THE ARMY...

LET THE PEOPLE STARVE!! I MUST CONQUER!!



PAH... FOOLS... I AM ANGROFF... I AM DESTINED TO RULE...



Merry Christmas, HANSEL ANGROFF!! NO, NO, NO!! DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?!













**A**nd having finished their tale, the three wise men looked upon the king for a sign ---- and lo ----





NEXT MORNING, AT THE HOME OF COMMISSIONER DOLAN, WHERE THE SPIRIT AND EBONY SPEND EVERY CHRISTMAS ....



GOLLY, MIST' I'M WORRIED ABOUT KING HOBO!! I GAVE HIM 24 HOURS TO RETURN THE MONEY HE STOLE --- HE'S JUST A KID, TOO!!



I'M AFRAID I'M GOING TO HAVE TO BREAK MY RULE OF NOT TRACKING CRIMINALS ON CHRISTMAS!!

I'LL ANSWER IT, DADDY!!



O.K. SPIRIT!! H--HERE'S THE DOUGH!! I---WELL... I'M SORRY ABOUT THAT JOB!!

KING HOBO!! GOOD LAD!! I'M PROUD OF YOU!!



WELL, SO LONG!! THANKS FOR THE BREAK!!

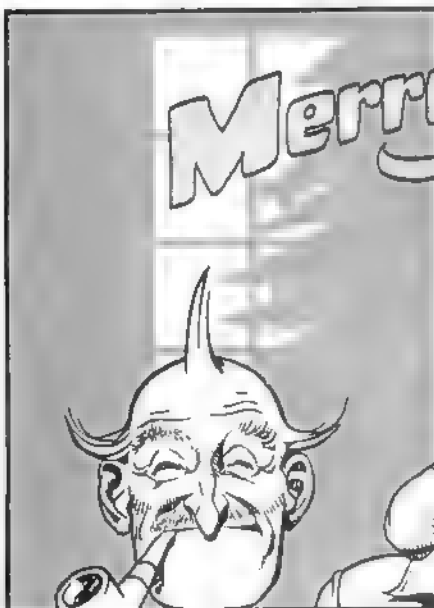
WAIT A MINUTE!! YOU'RE GOING TO SPEND A REAL CHRISTMAS WITH US!!



AND NOW I THINK IT'S TIME TO DO WHAT WE PLANNED ... THIS WAY, FOLKS!!!



Merry Christmas!!

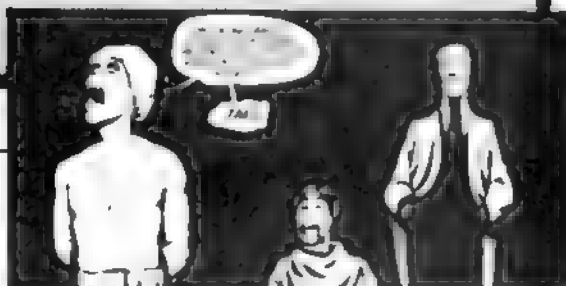
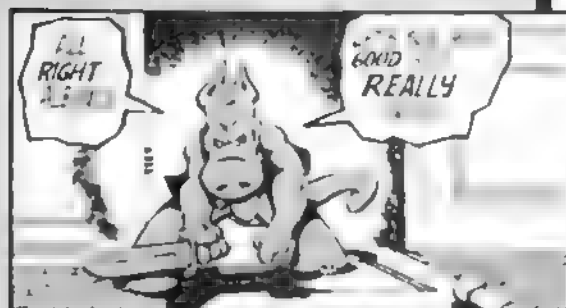
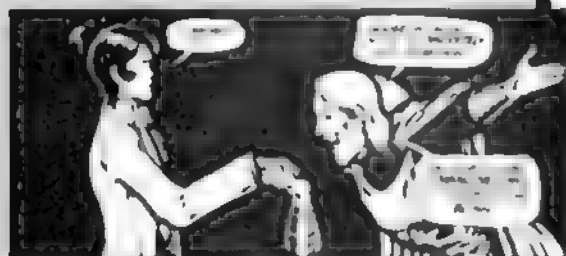
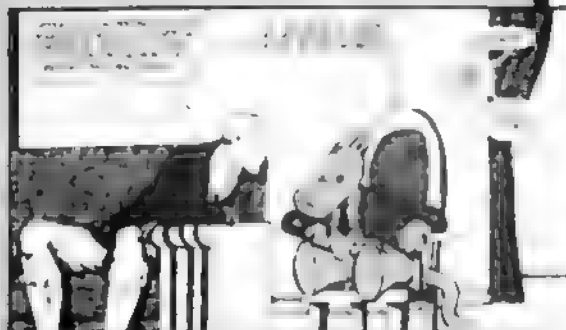




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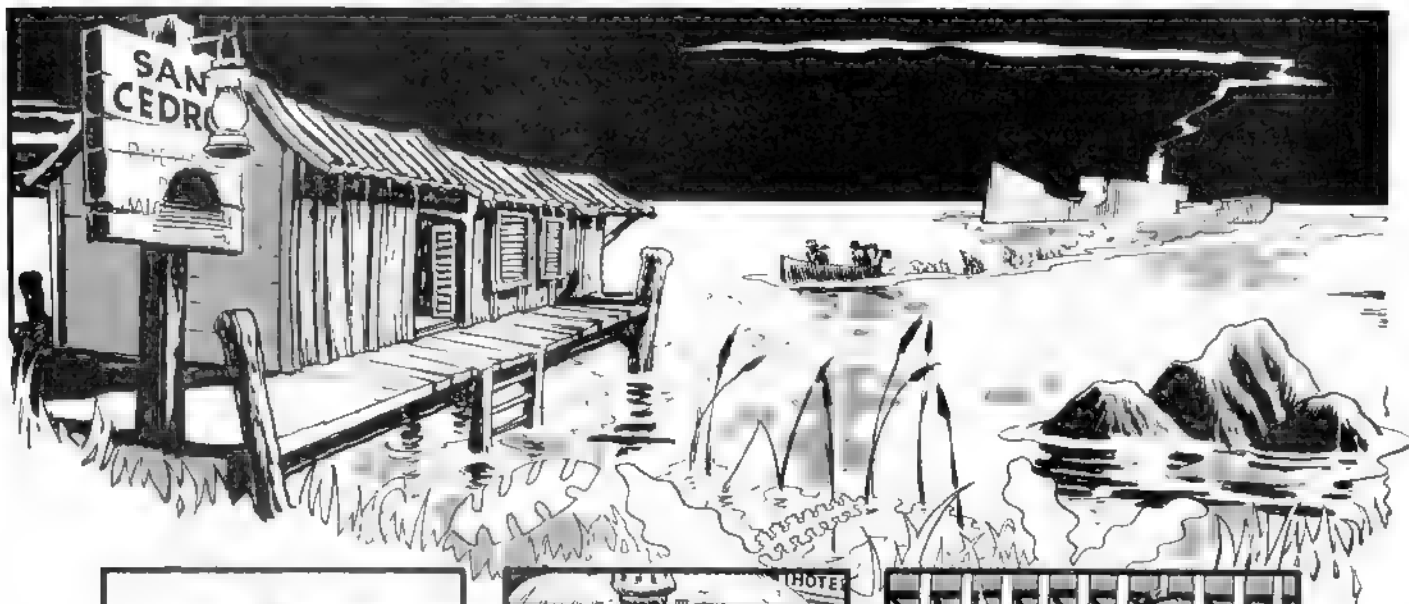
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# Lilly Lotus

Originally Published July 10, 1949

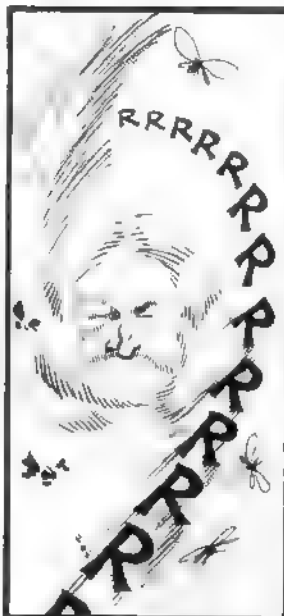
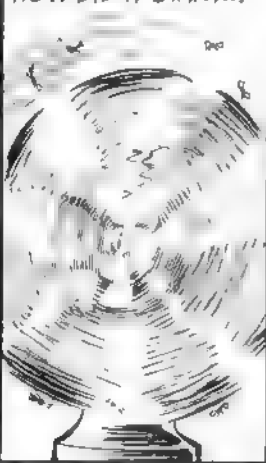




THIS HOT AND MOLDY ROOM  
FAR FROM CENTRAL CITY...  
A NEW WORLD... FUNNY HOW  
MY REASONS FOR COMING  
HERE SEEM ALMOST  
SILLY NOW...



FUNNY... A CHANGE OF  
SCENERY, AND POOF!  
...MEMORY FADES...  
TRY TO THINK NOW...  
WHY DID I LEAVE ?  
HOW DID IT START..?



BLAST THESE  
@#X!!@!  
FLIES !!

GO!! \*\*\*!!...EVERYTHING  
HAPPENS IN THIS WEATHER!  
JUDGE GAVEL DISAPPEARS  
JUST AS HE'S ABOUT TO PASS  
SENTENCE IN THE 'BUTCHER'  
VADDIS MURDER TRIAL...  
AND NOW THE MAYOR  
IS ON MY TAIL FOR NOT  
FINDING HIM,



HE SAYS THE ONLY  
CAPABLE COP IN CENTRAL  
CITY IS THE SPIRIT, AND  
HE'S NOT EVEN ON  
THE FORCE!  
SOMETIMES I WISH  
THERE WERE NO  
SPIRIT!

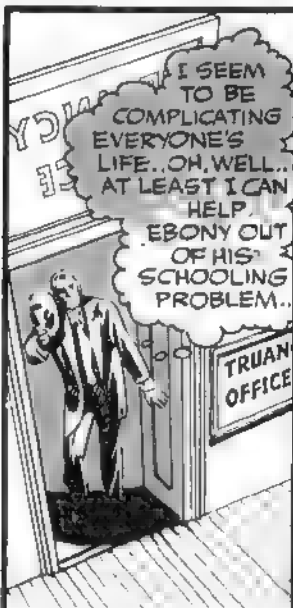


I KNOW  
HOW YOU  
FEEL,  
DADDY!

I LOVE THE BOY  
LIKE M'OWN  
SON, ELLEN!  
BUT HE'S  
PUT MY JOB  
IN JEOPARDY!



IF  
HE'D ONLY  
SETTLE  
DOWN...  
BUT I  
GUESS  
HE'LL NEVER  
MARRY...  
WHAT'S THE  
USE OF  
HOPING?



I SEEM  
TO BE  
COMPLICATING  
EVERYONE'S  
LIFE... OH, WELL...  
AT LEAST I CAN  
HELP  
EBONY OUT  
OF HIS  
SCHOOLING  
PROBLEM...

AH, THERE YOU  
ARE, MISTER SPIRIT!  
I'M AFRAID WE'LL  
HAVE TO BE STERN  
THIS TIME...  
THIS BOY MUST  
ATTEND A  
REGULAR  
SCHOOL. IT'S  
A STATE LAW!



AH  
WON'T  
GO! AH'LL  
PLAY  
HOOKY!  
AH M THE  
SPIRIT'S  
ASSISTANT!

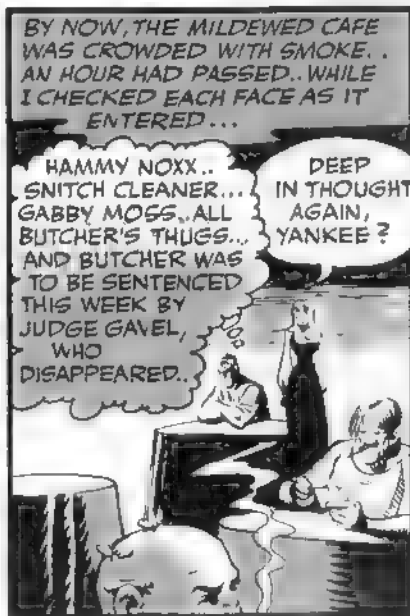
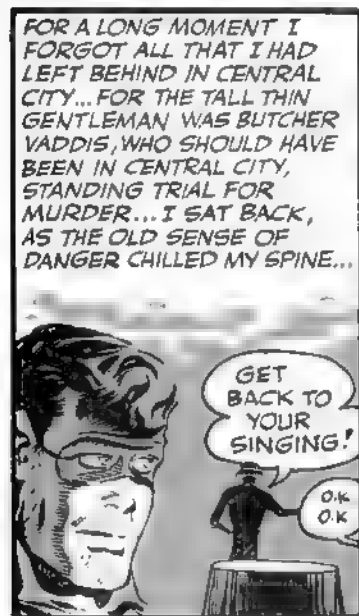
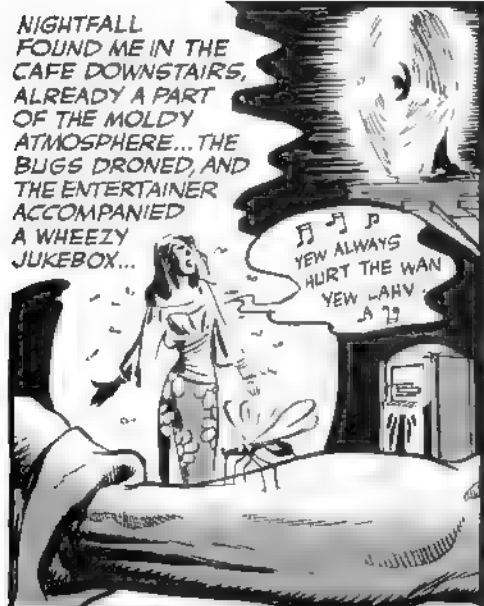
HE'LL ATTEND,  
MRS. GUFFY...  
HE'LL ATTEND  
SCHOOL FROM  
NOW ON...  
BECAUSE THERE  
WON'T BE ANY  
SPIRIT FOR HIM  
TO ASSIST!



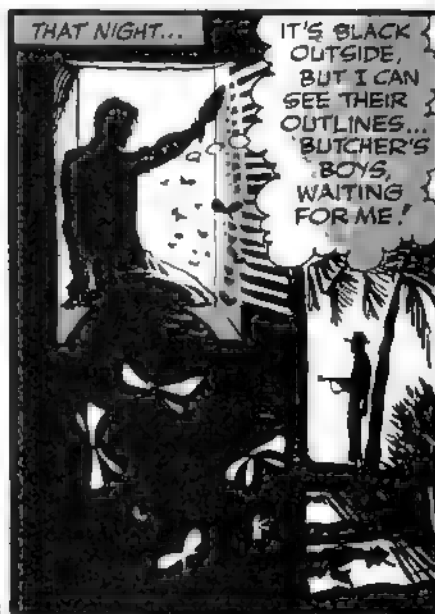
... AND THAT'S HOW  
IT HAPPENED... ALL OF A  
SUDDEN... MAKE A  
DECISION... BUY  
A TICKET... AND  
PLOP... I'M IN SAN  
CEDROS!

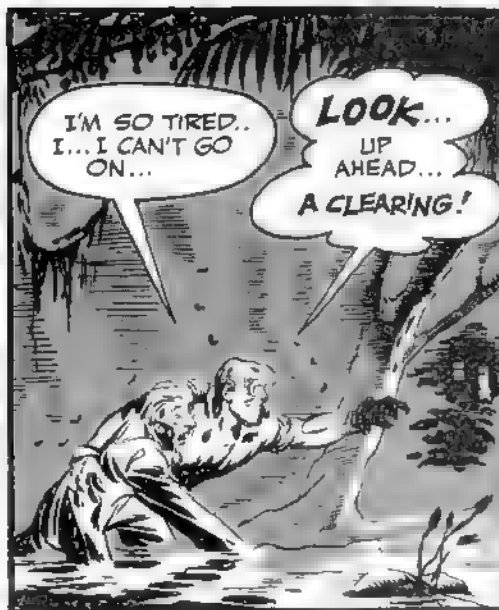
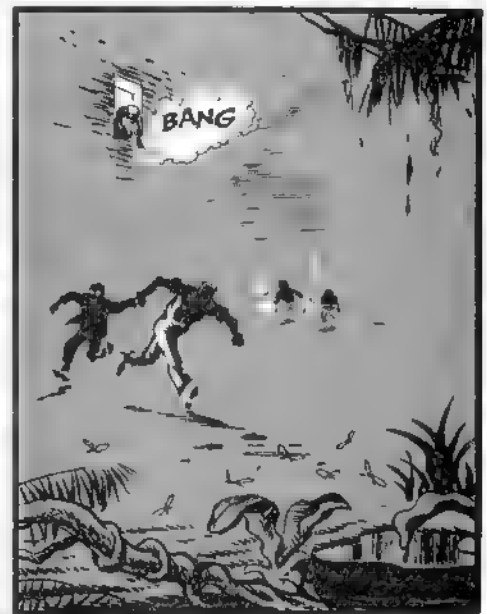


YOU ALW-AYZ  
HURRRT THE WAN  
YEW LAHV

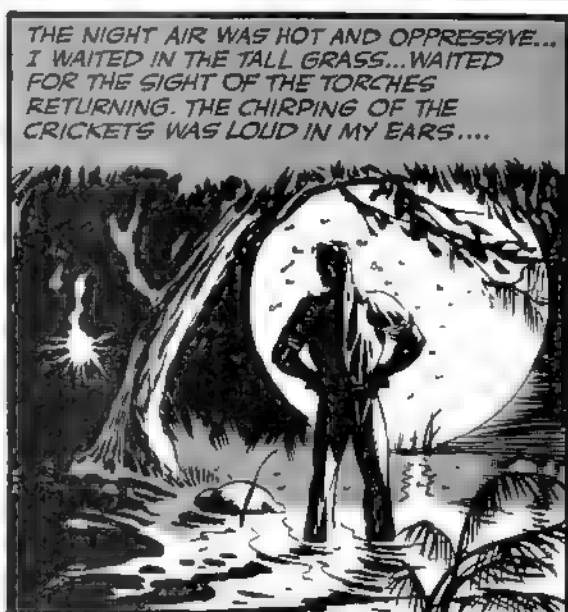


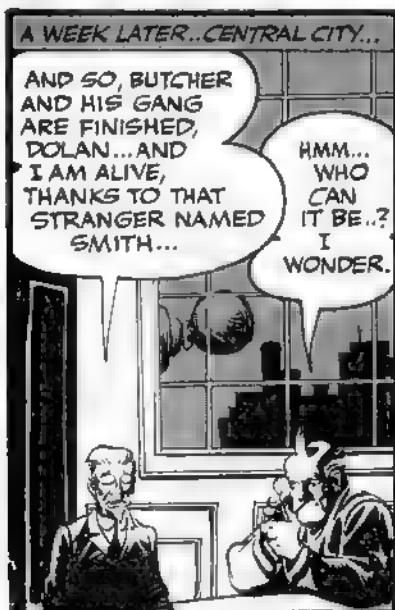












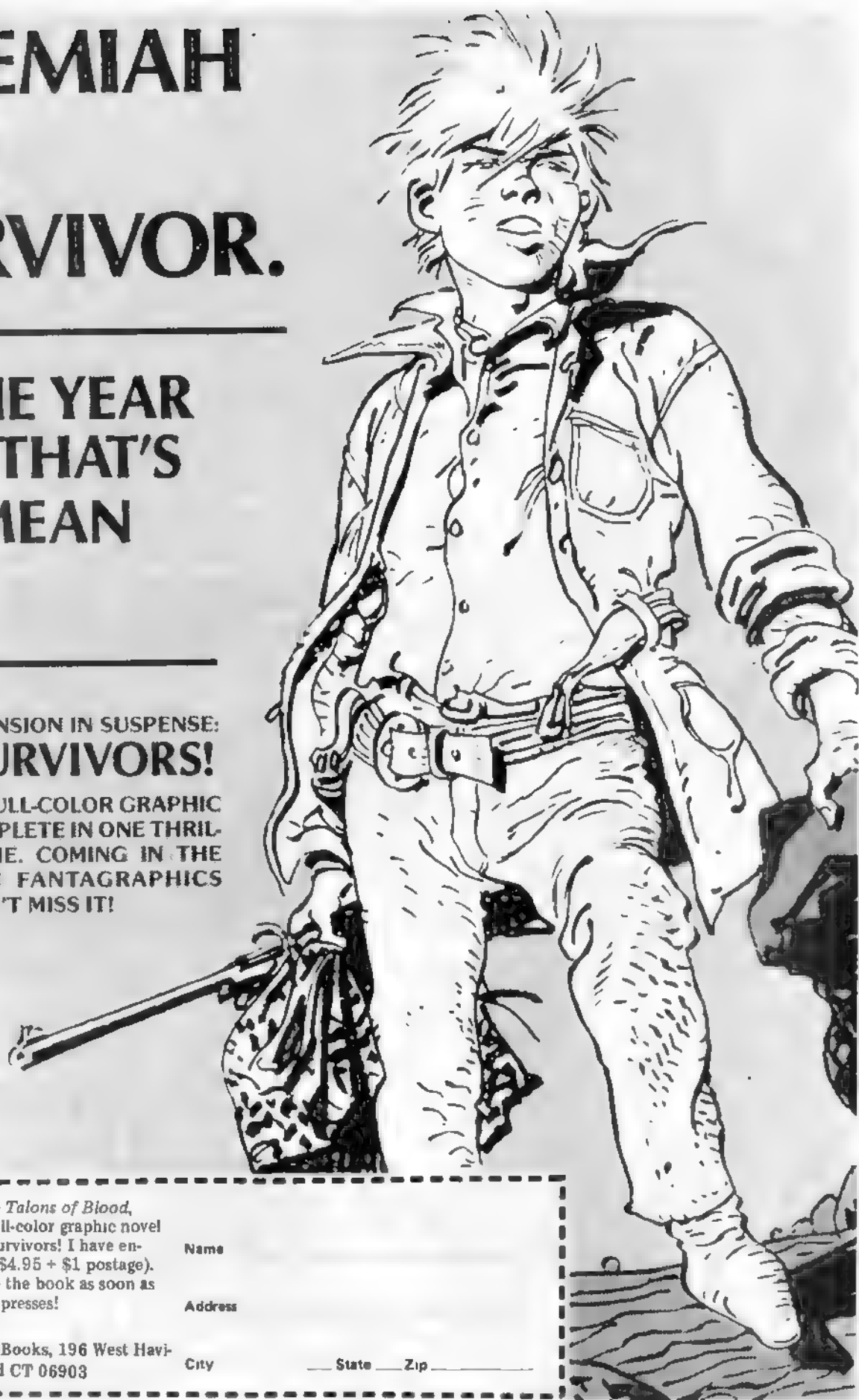


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# THE Christmas SPIRIT

This week we relinquish this space—normally reserved for our Christmas-story—to your friend and ours, Mr. S. Kringle Claus. He has a message for those who this year did not receive their gifts.

..er...Ahem...we give you...  
Mister Claus.

SIGH...





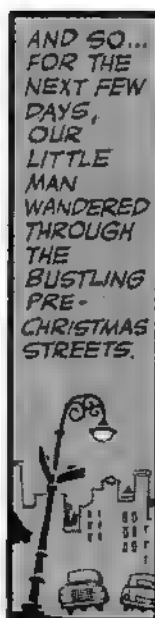


Which is the week I usually spend in town, checking my list and correcting any mistakes.



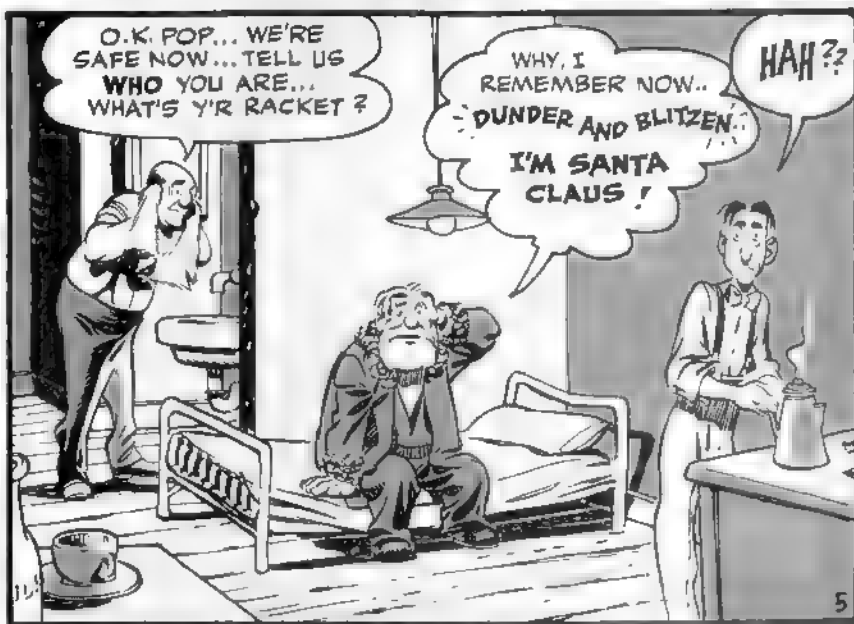
Well.. SIGH... everything went normally... only this year I decided to check into a hotel.



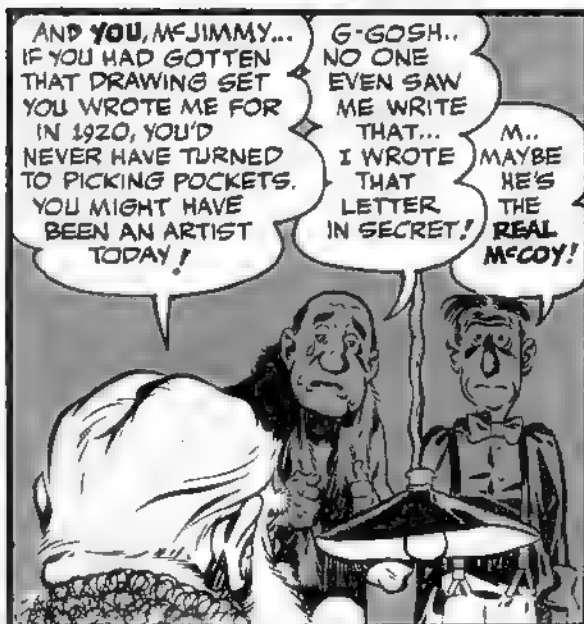
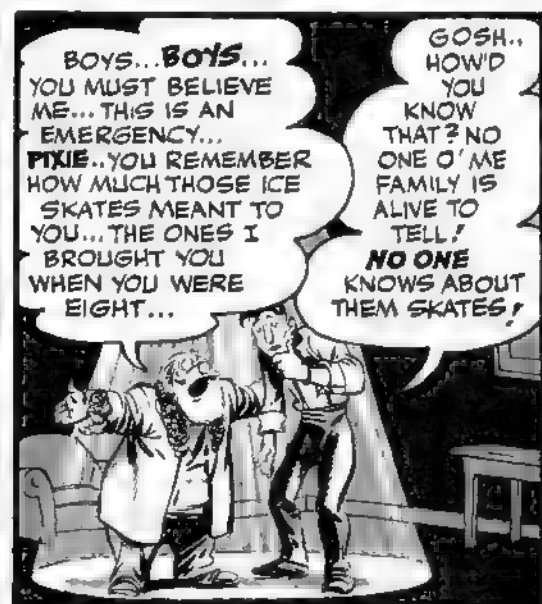
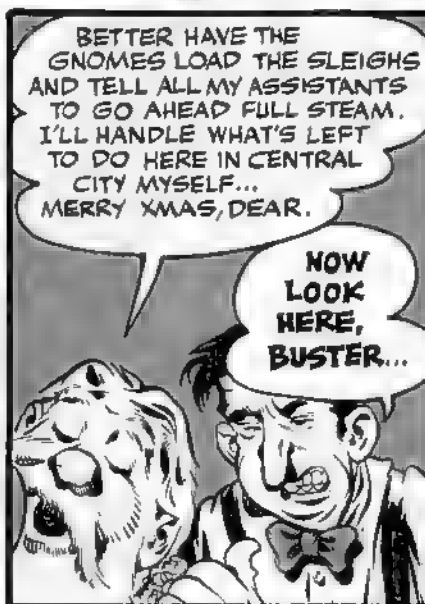
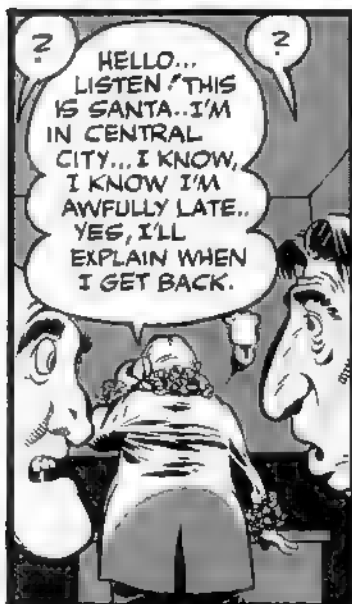
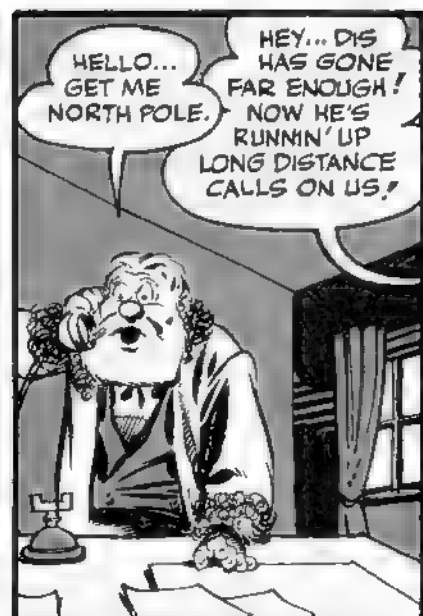












Well sir... everything went according to plan... **HO HO HO HO** ..never did have two assistants who worked so hard... although I can't say that I approve of their methods...



DON'T SHOOT..  
**DON'T SHOOT!**  
THE COMBINATION  
IS 4L..5R..6L..  
8R...



WHO'S  
INTERESTED?  
STOP YELLIN'..  
Y'WANNA  
WAKE UP THE  
KIDS ??



BUT Y'CAN'T  
DO THIS TO ME  
I'VE **NEVER** GIVEN  
MY EMPLOYEES  
A SINGLE GIFT..

**SHADDAP!**  
IF Y'AIN'T GOT  
NO XMAS SPIRIT,  
I'LL BLOW IT  
INTA YA..SEE?



CARBUNKLE..  
YOU DARLING..  
**A FUR COAT!**  
..JUST AS I  
WISHED..

?  
**HUH**  
OH  
YEAH..  
YEAH...



FOR ME?

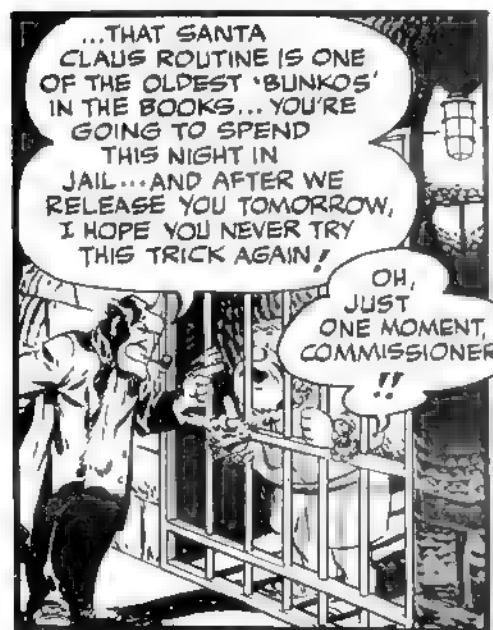
SEEMS SO.  
SIGN HERE...  
WHEW!  
**A GOLD-  
PLATED CAR!**  
THESE BELLHOPS  
SURE GET BIG  
TIPS!



es sir... as  
I said, everything  
worked out fine..  
**except**  
for  
me...



HEY  
YOU...  
**HALT!?**



...THAT SANTA  
CLAUS ROUTINE IS ONE  
OF THE OLDEST 'BUNKOS'  
IN THE BOOKS... YOU'RE  
GOING TO SPEND  
THIS NIGHT IN  
JAIL...AND AFTER WE  
RELEASE YOU TOMORROW,  
I HOPE YOU NEVER TRY  
THIS TRICK AGAIN!

OH,  
JUST  
ONE MOMENT,  
COMMISSIONER  
!!



AT LEAST  
I'LL BE ABLE  
TO DELIVER  
ONE GIFT..  
**MERRY  
XMAS!!**

HMMPEF  
??



..AND SO..IF THOSE  
OF YOU WHO DID NOT  
RECEIVE THEIR GIFTS THIS  
XMAS WILL BE PATIENT,  
I PROMISE I'LL BE THERE  
NEXT YEAR...ON TIME!



merry Xmas  
everyone!!  
Bill E. Baker



Schanes & Schanes  
presents . . .

A  
PORT-  
FOLIO  
by  
TIM  
BURGARD



## BLOOD SISTERS

Seven exciting portraits of exotic women warriors — women whose savagery and sensuousness form a two-edged sword, as capable of wielding a death blow as a caress.

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WEEKLY  
PAGES

# The Detroit News

THE HOME NEWSPAPER

1 COMPLETE  
STORIES

SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 1936



**LAST DAY OF GUN  
GORGAN TRIAL**

NO ONE TO  
GET NO MORE  
FROM THE COURT

ARE YOU SURE,  
MR. O'DAY?  
WOULD YOU  
SWEAR ON YOUR  
REPUTATION AS  
A CORONER  
THAT IT WAS  
MURDER?

WELL, ER...  
WHEN Y'DUT IT  
THAT WAY,  
NO M-MA'M!

THAT'S ALL,  
YOU MAY  
STEP  
DOWN...

GENTLEMEN OF THE JURY: THE  
ATTEMPTS OF THIS STATE TO RAIL-  
ROAD MR. GORGAN ARE ABSURD! I  
HAVE DISTINCTLY PROVEN THAT  
THERE IS NO REAL EVIDENCE! I  
CAN SEE BY YOUR **INTELLIGENT**  
FACES THAT YOU WILL  
DISCARD THE FALSE  
ACCUSATIONS AND ACQUIT  
MY CLIENT! THANK YOU!

WE, THE JURY, FIND  
THE DEFENDANT  
**NOT GUILTY!**

CONGRATULATIONS  
SLOT!

TANK!

JUST TELL THE  
PUBLIC THAT MR.  
GORGAN IS HAPPY  
THAT JUSTICE  
HAS AGAIN  
TRIUMPHED!

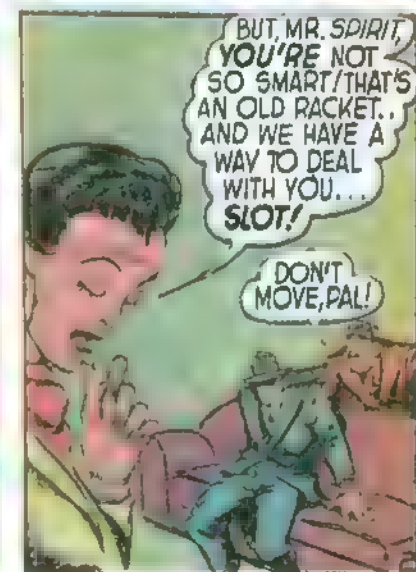
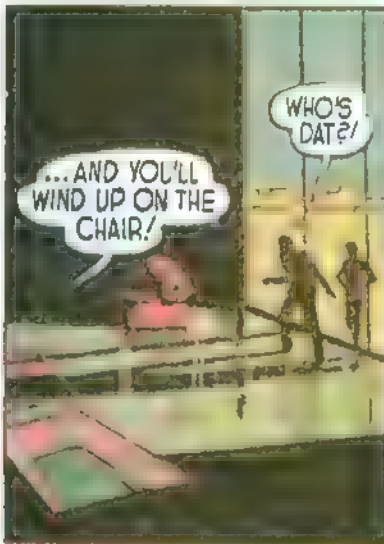
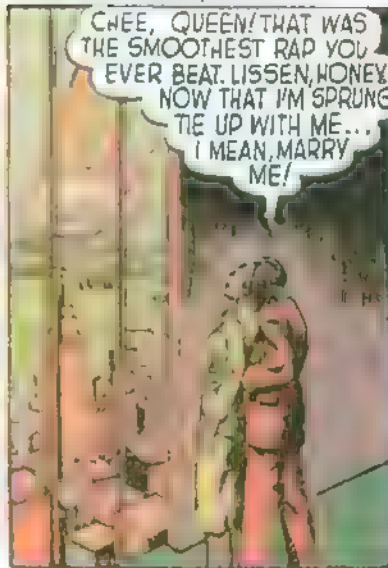
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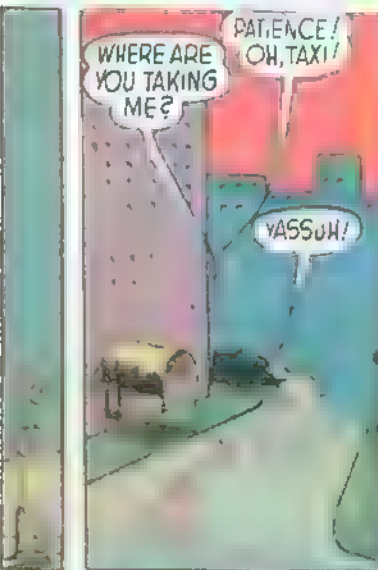
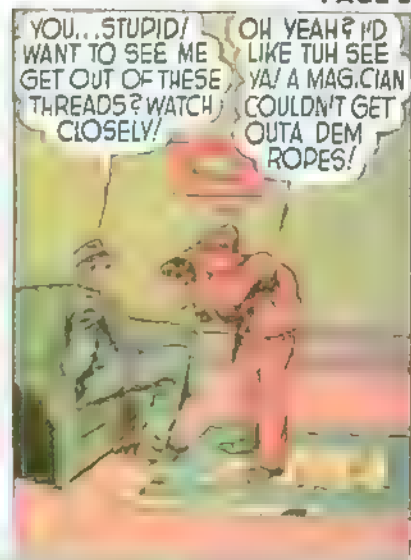
OH WELL, ANOTHER  
ACQUITTAL... BOY!  
THAT DAME  
MOUTHPIECE  
HE'S GOT SURE  
IS SMART!

YEH... THE  
BLACK QUEEN!  
HMPF... EVEN IF  
THEY FOUND HIM  
**HOLDIN' THE**  
GUN, SHE'D FIND  
A LOOPHOLE IN THE  
LAW AND PROVE  
HE'S **NOT**  
GUILTY!

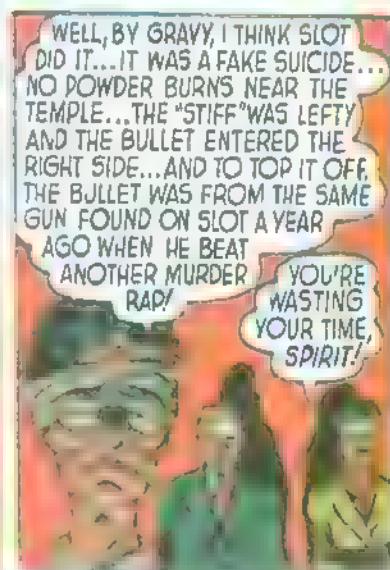
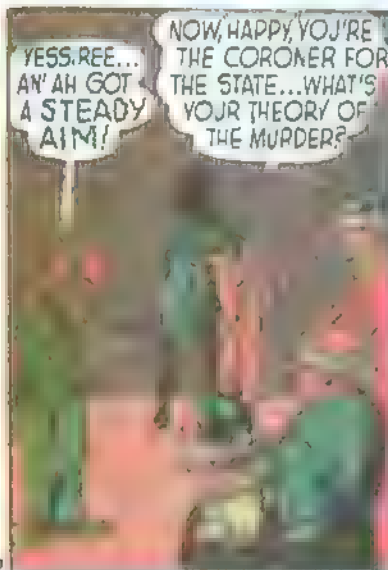
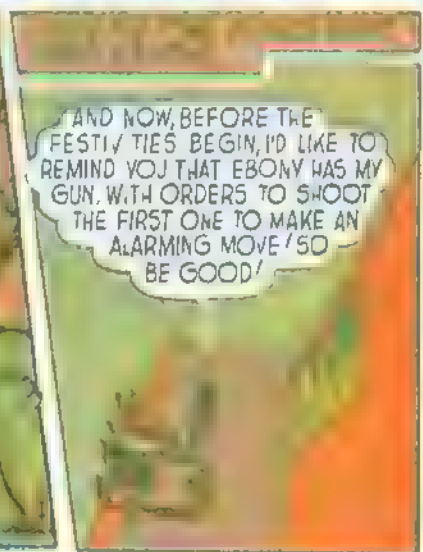
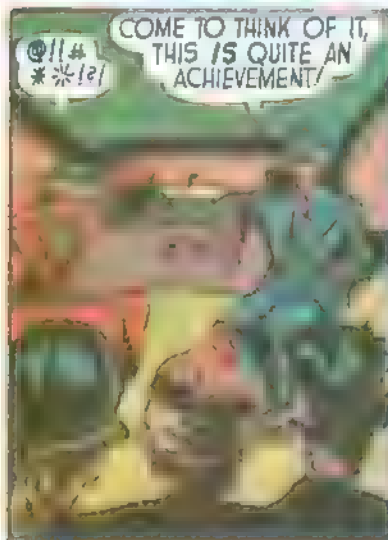
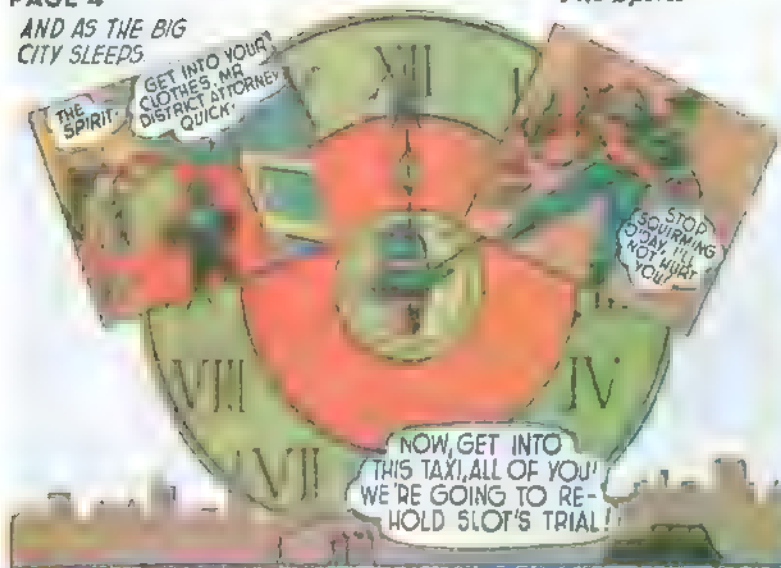


The Spirit

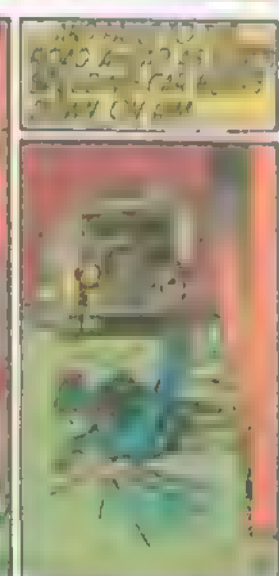
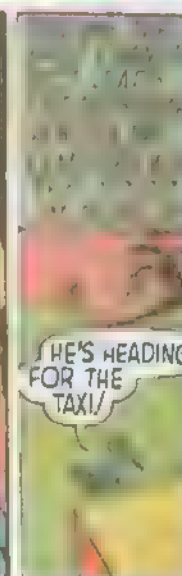




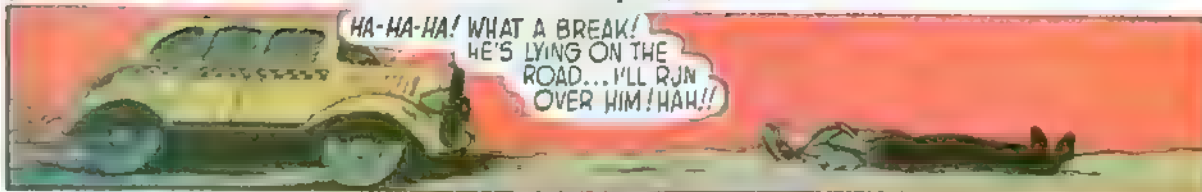
AND AS THE BIG CITY SLEEPS



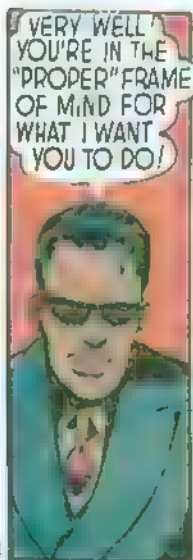




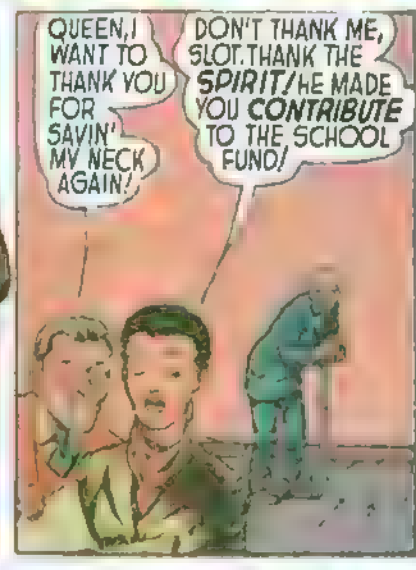
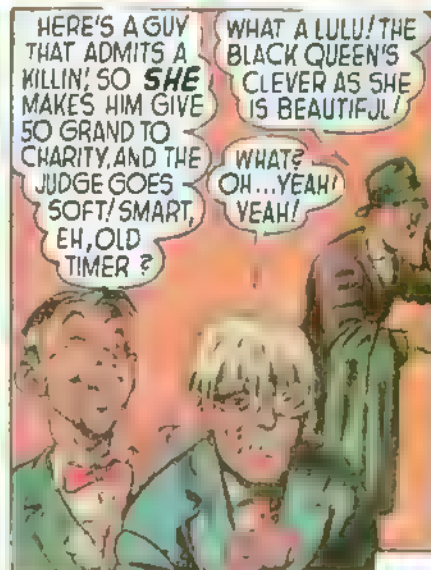
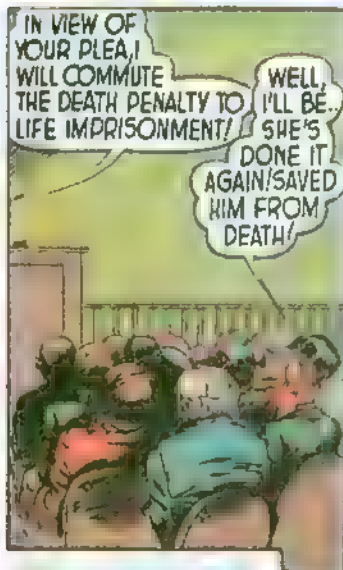
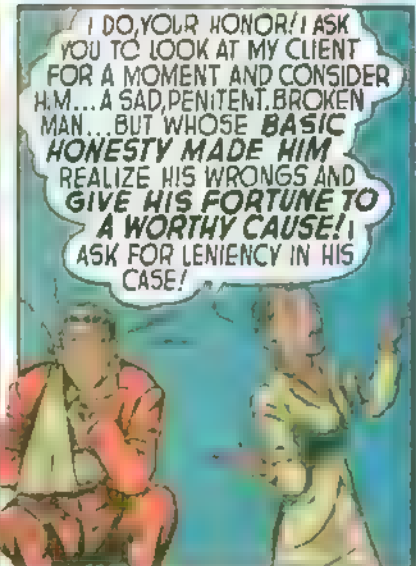
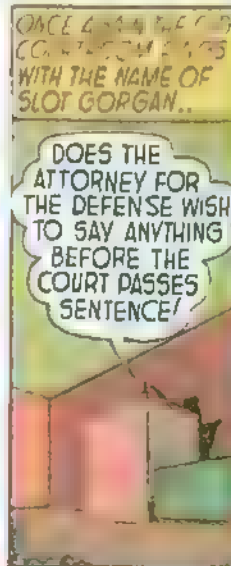
*The Spirit*



UNDERNEATH THE SPEED-  
ING CAR...



NEXT DAY...





# ON SALE NOW!

ILLUSTRATED BY CAT YRONWODE.  
INTRODUCTION BY JULES  
FEIFFER. 136 pages.

*The Art of Will Eisner* is any Eisner fan's dream-come-true. This carefully-researched book covers Eisner's brilliant career from the very start—his first high school yearbook illustrations and strip attempts, and his earliest commercial work (Bay Cove School Soap!)—to his latest artistic directions. The book covers the Eisner/Iger years and the Quality Shop (1936-41)... the early *Jumbo Comics*... Muss 'n' Up Donovan (at last!)... Yacko the Great... Uncle Sam... and the swashbuckling Hawks of the Seas... The first *Spirit* years (including one never-before-reprinted classic which appears here in full color!)... The War years, which are illustrated by Eisner's posters, *Joe Dope* strips and photos of Eisner in uniform... The post war *Spirit* (1945-52), covered in depth... Commercial art from the little-known period of the 50's and 60's... The revival of *The Spirit*... and much more. Many early photos of Eisner and his co-workers are included, along with revealing newspaper clippings. PLUS! Much never-before-published art for: Daily and Sunday comic strips never syndicated... Cover art for comic books... The John Law feature which merged into the classic *Spirit*/Sand Saref stories & much more never-before-seen art!



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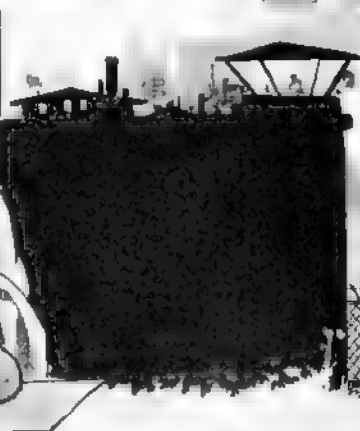
WHERE IS THERE A CITY  
WITHOUT WALLS  
THAT HOUSE ITS SOUL  
OR MUFFLE ITS CRIES  
AND CHOREOGRAPH  
THE DANCE OF ITS LIFE?  
IF WALLS ARE TO PROTECT  
AND EXCLUDE  
DO THEY NOT ALSO CONTAIN  
AND IMPRISON?  
SO, ARE THEY, THEN, TO LOVE  
OR TO HATE?

... AFTER ALL  
WALLS ARE NOT  
BY NATURE MADE





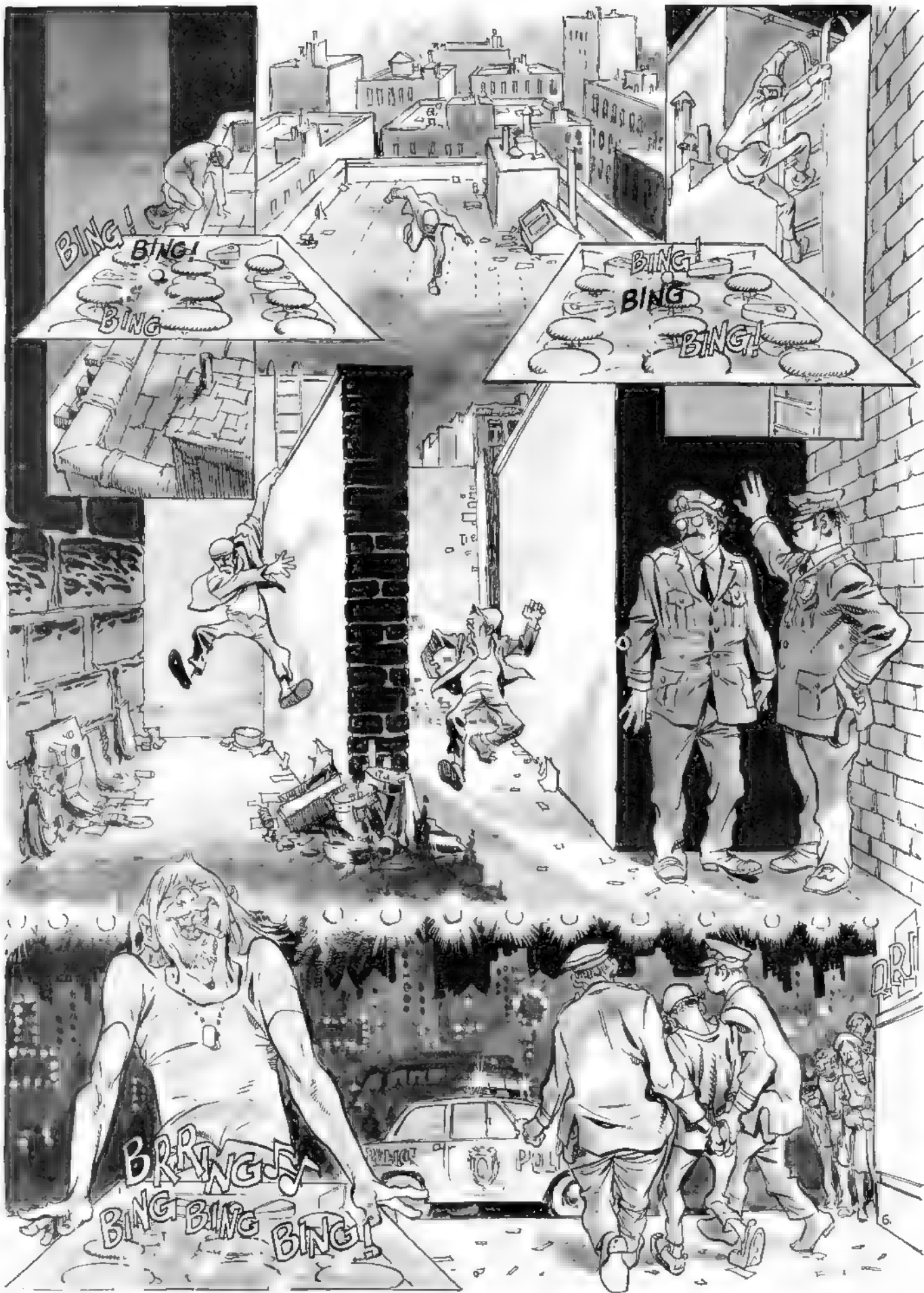




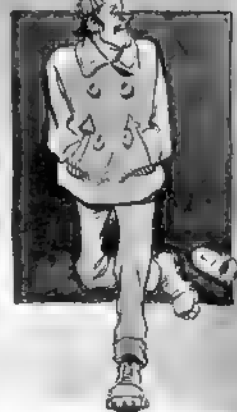




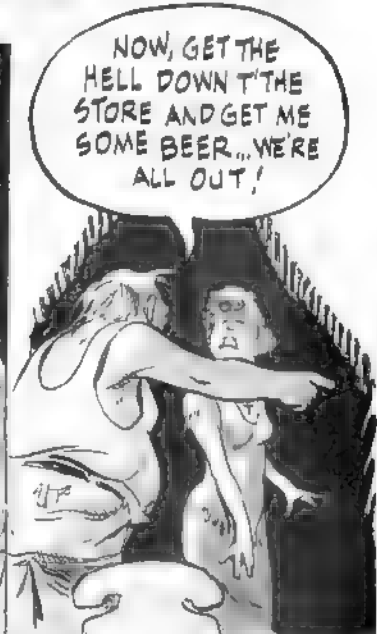
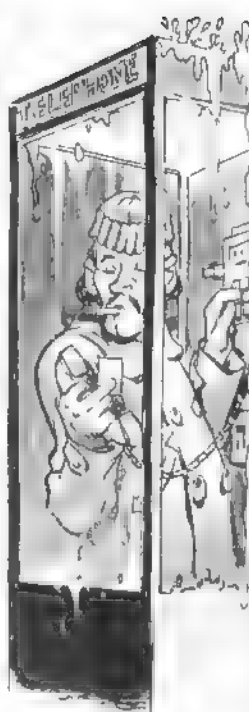


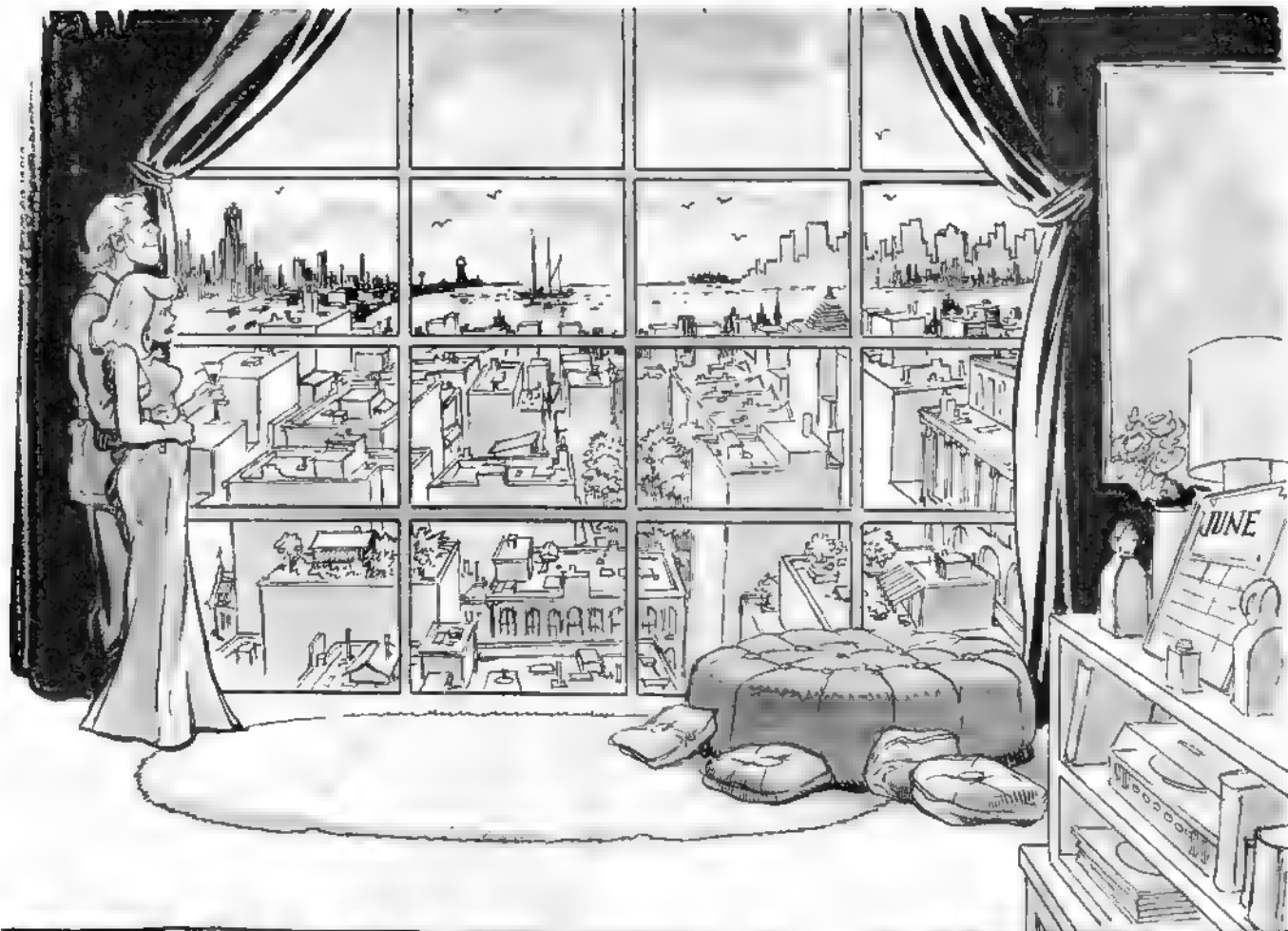


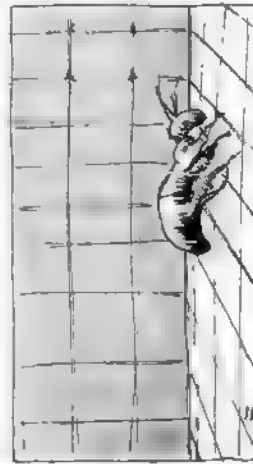
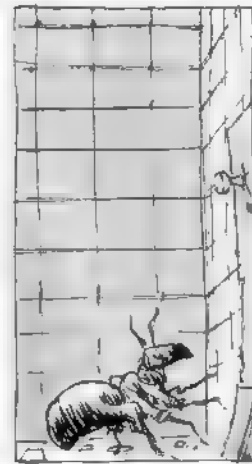
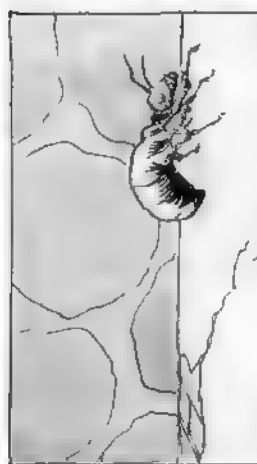
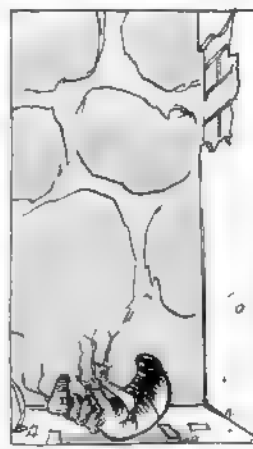
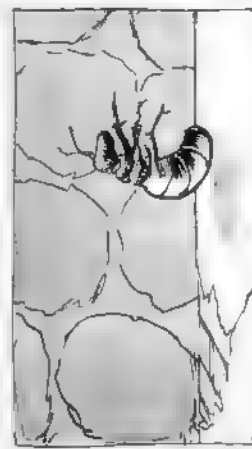
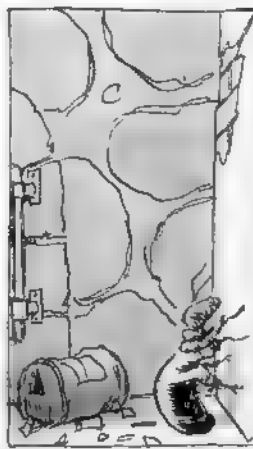
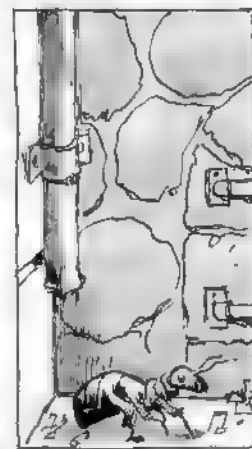
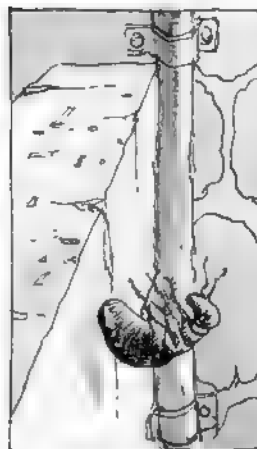
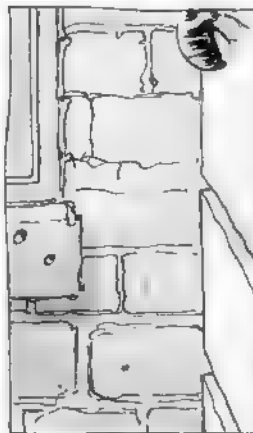
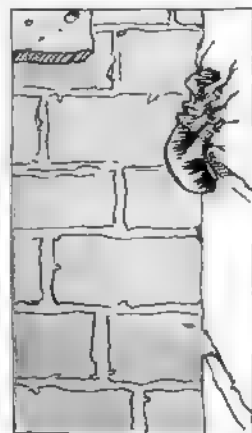
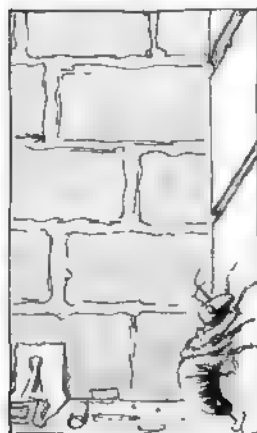
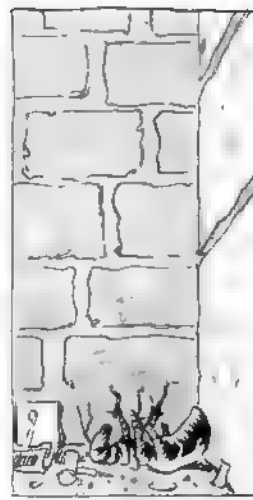
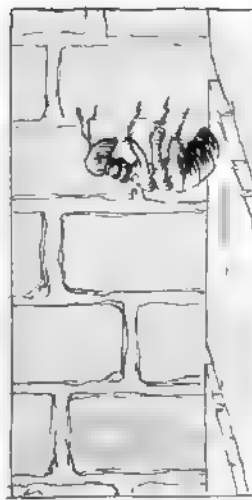
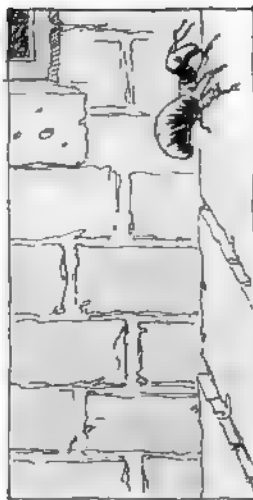
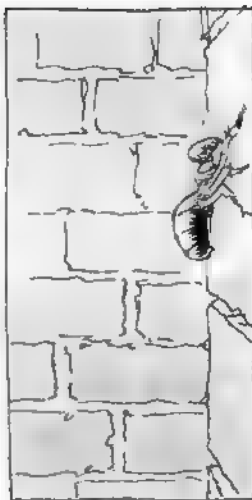
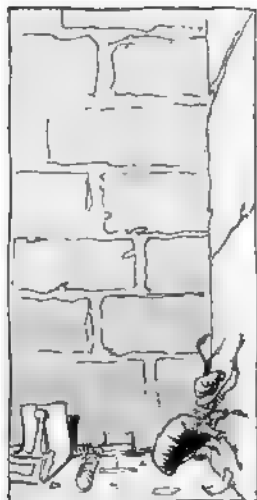
















HEE HEE...HA, HA  
HARRY...OH, OH  
YES...YES...  
YEA AAA~



OOOOOH~!!! WHAT'S  
THE MATTER  
HARRY?!



I...I'M  
SORRY  
GERTIE  
I...I CAN'T  
CAN'T

OH, FER  
CHRISSAKES  
HARRY  
COME ON!!  
COME ON!



OHMM  
NFE  
JGH  
HUUH

JEEZUS  
HARRY  
URNPF  
HEY!!



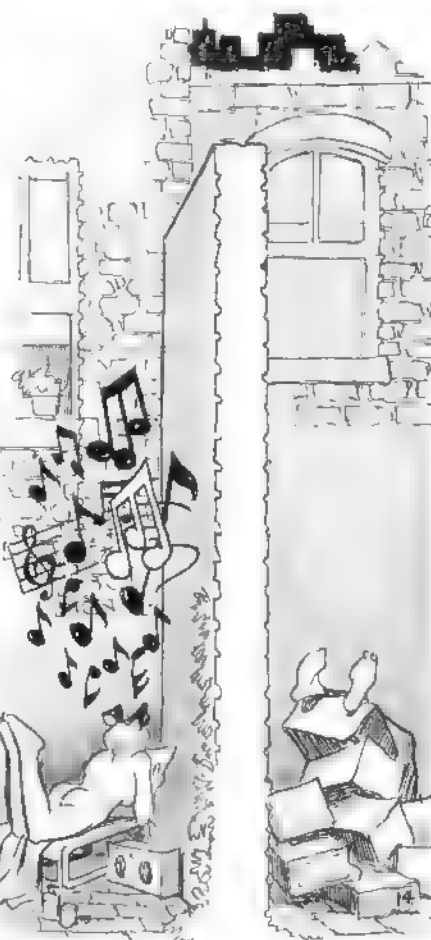
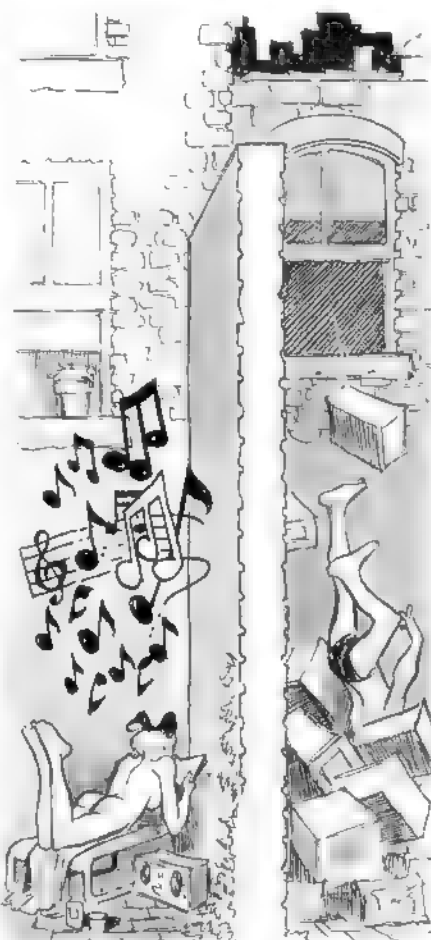
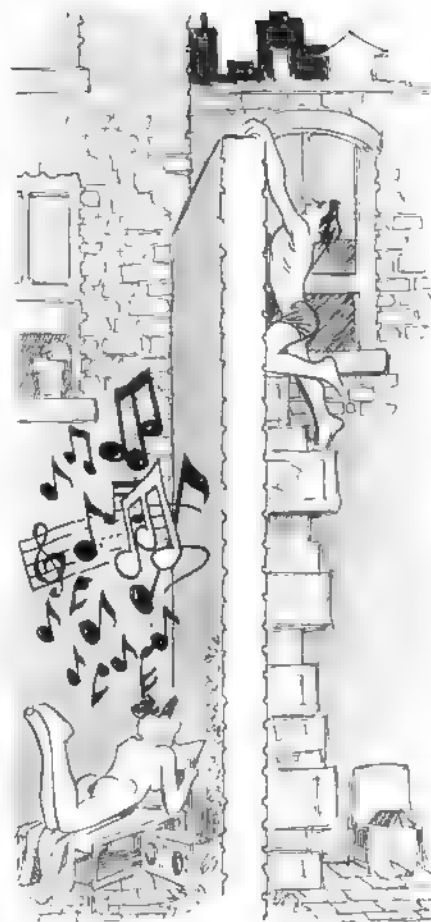
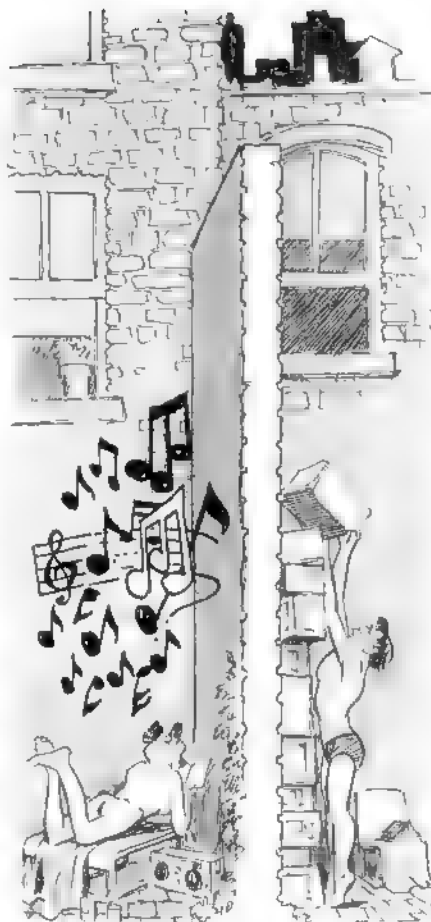
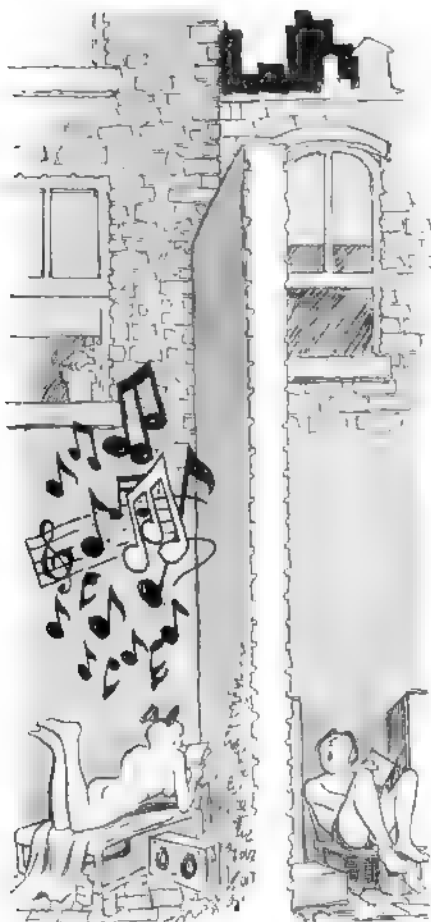
WHAT THE HELL  
ARE YOU DOING???  
HARRY..H-A-R-R-Y  
STOP THAT  
S-T-O-P IT!



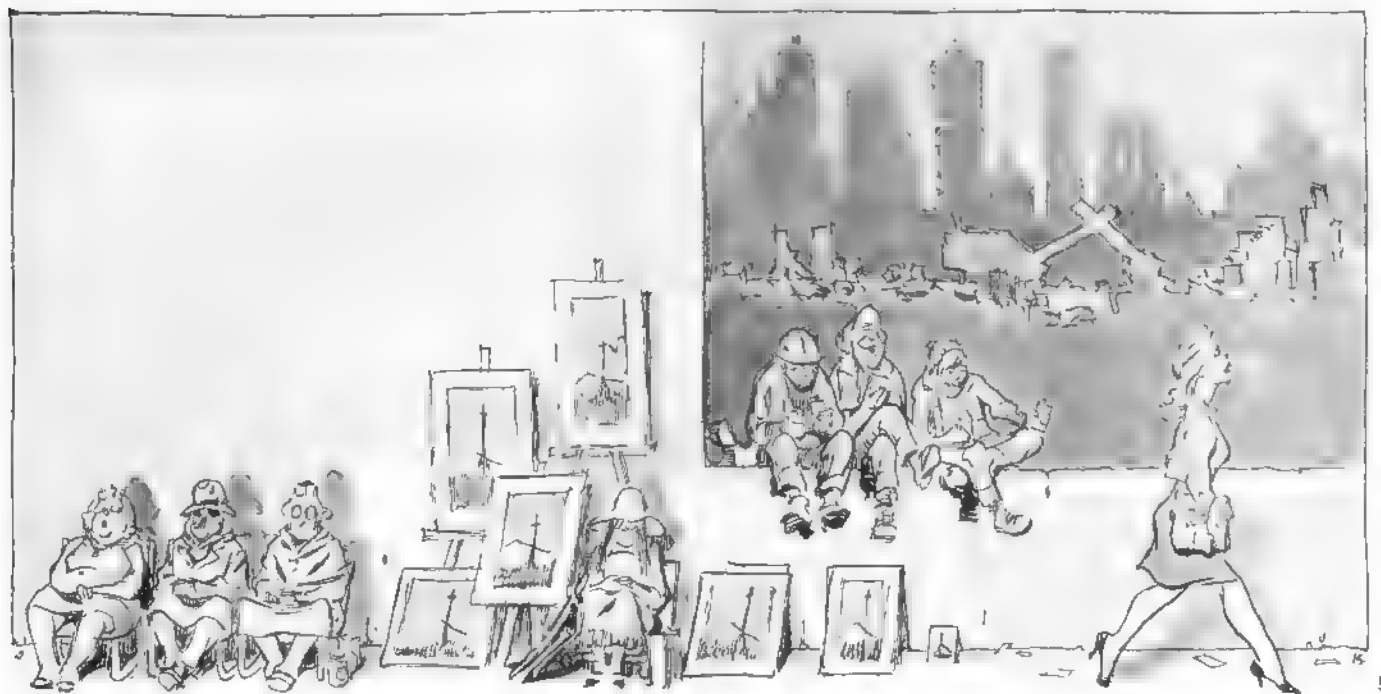
DON'T, HARRY...DON'T!  
OHMYGAWD...YOU  
SOME KINDA  
DEVIATE??  
CUT IT OUT!!!

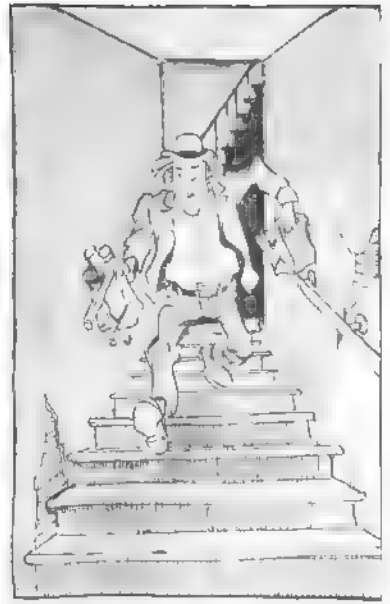
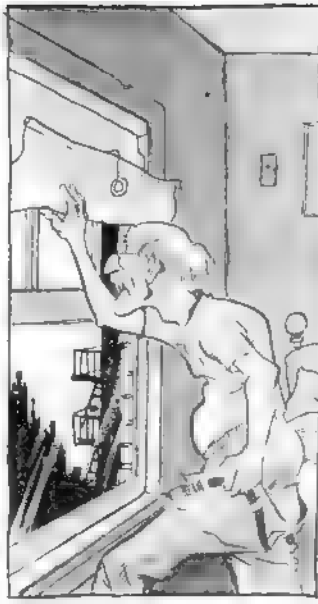
















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AGAIN!



# ECLIPSE

## Number 8



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Based on the Embassy motion picture produced by Benjamin Melniker and Michael Uslan  
Character created by Len Wein & Berni Wrightson

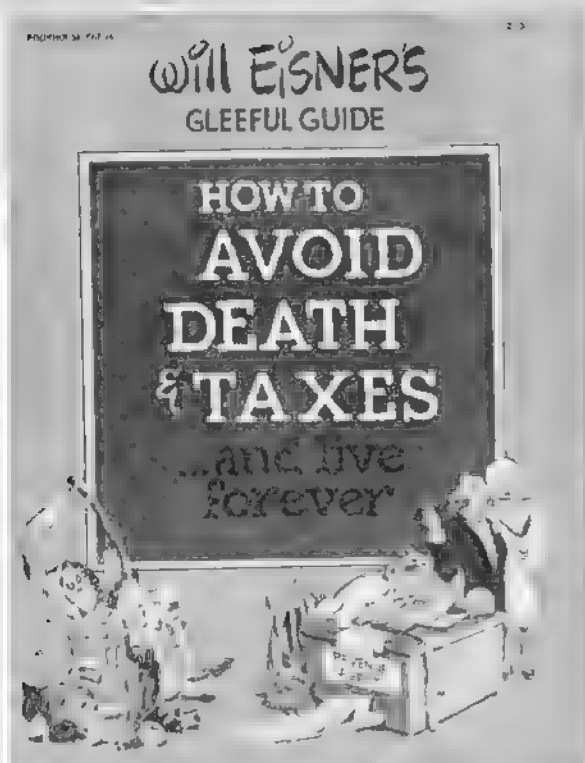
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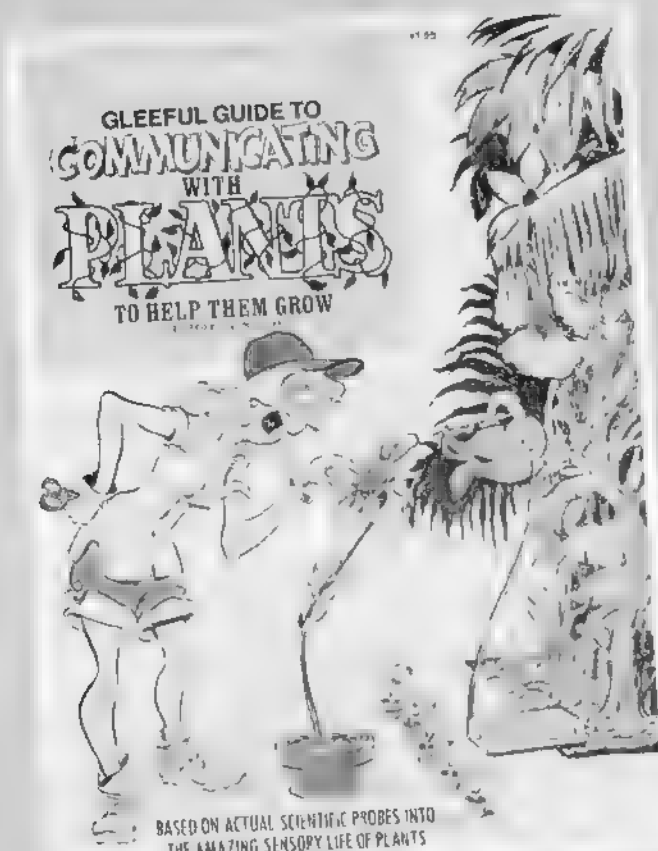
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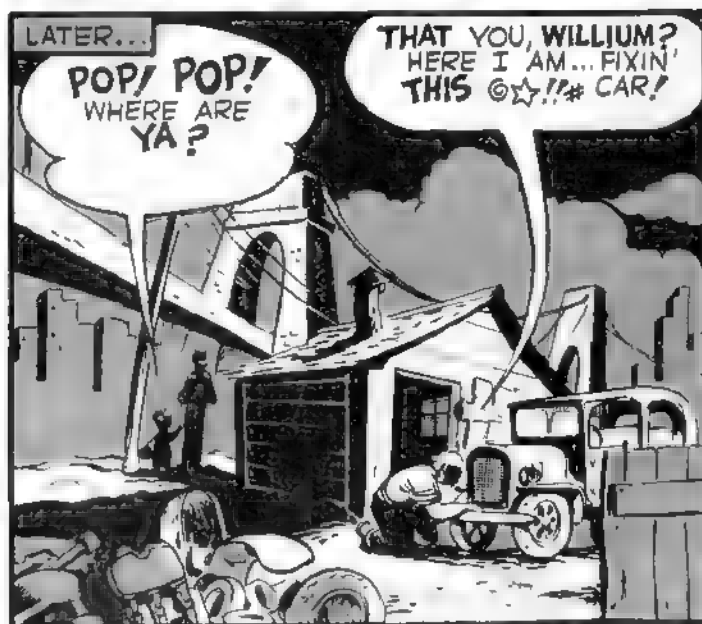
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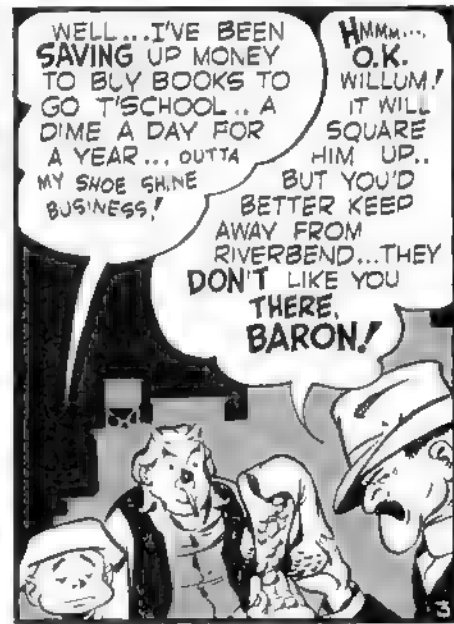
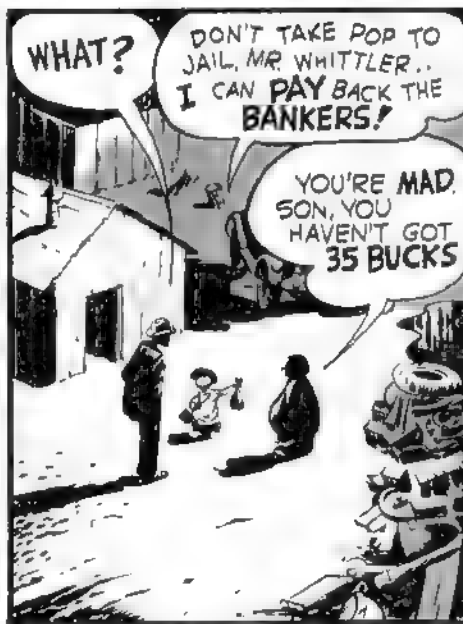
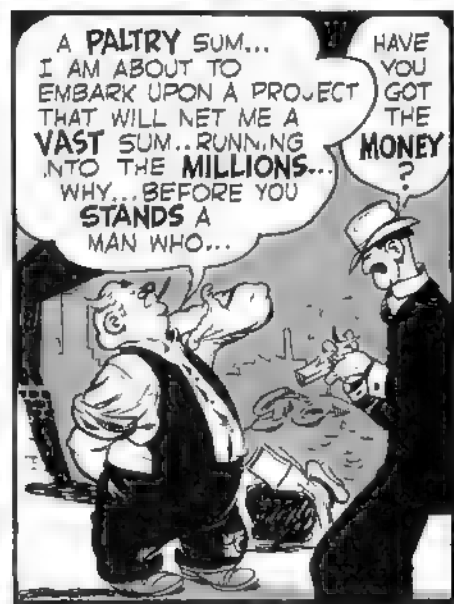
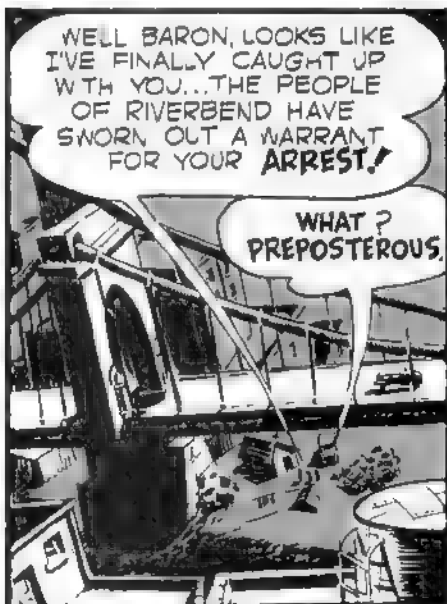
# WILLUM & THE BARON

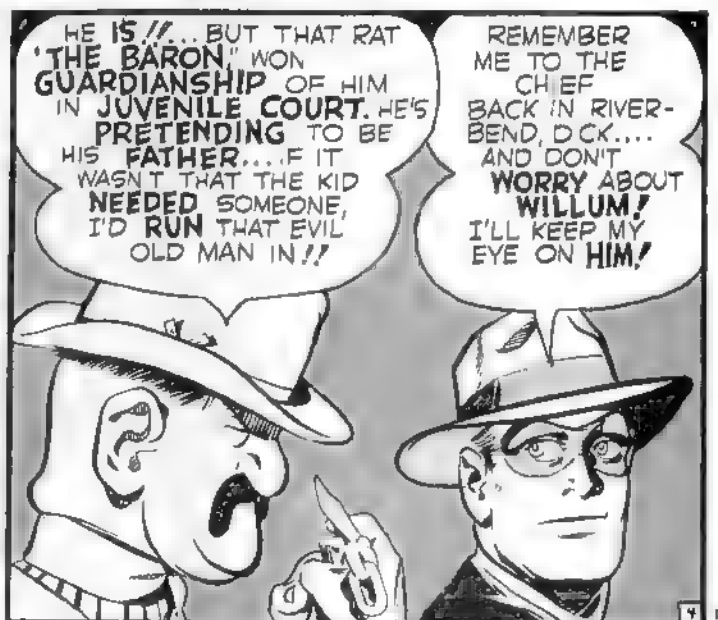
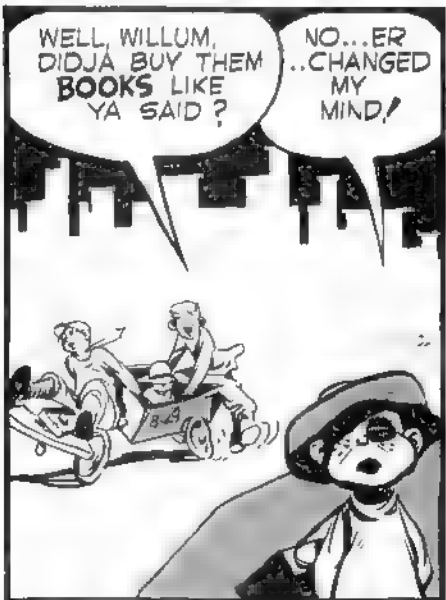
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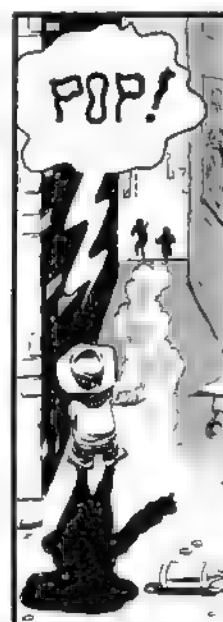


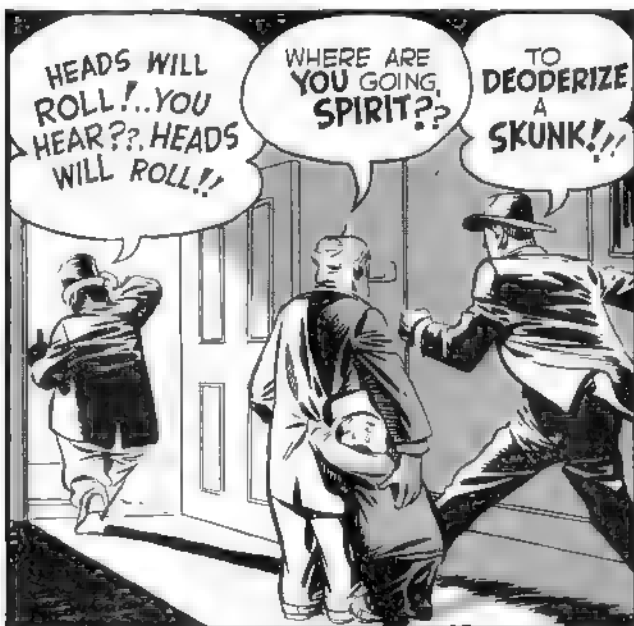
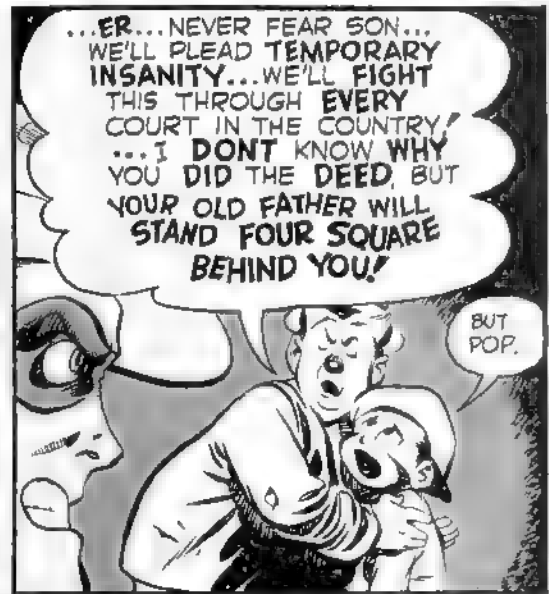
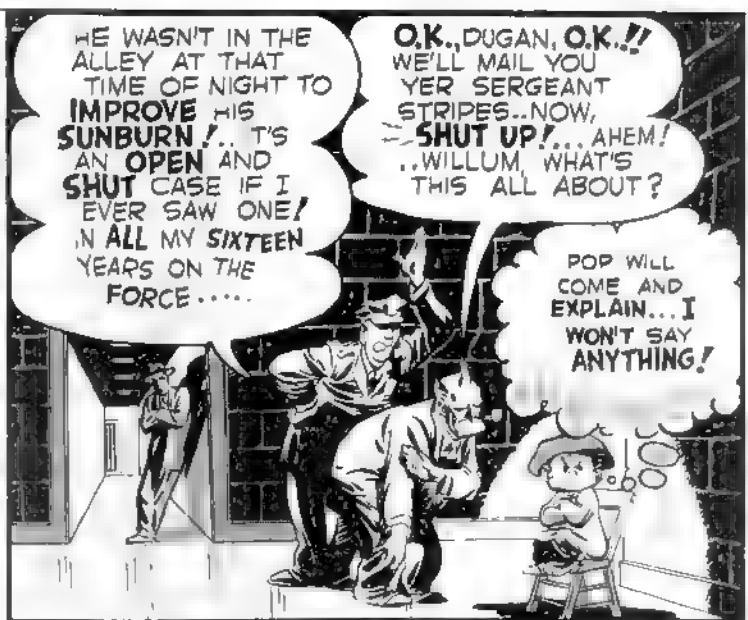
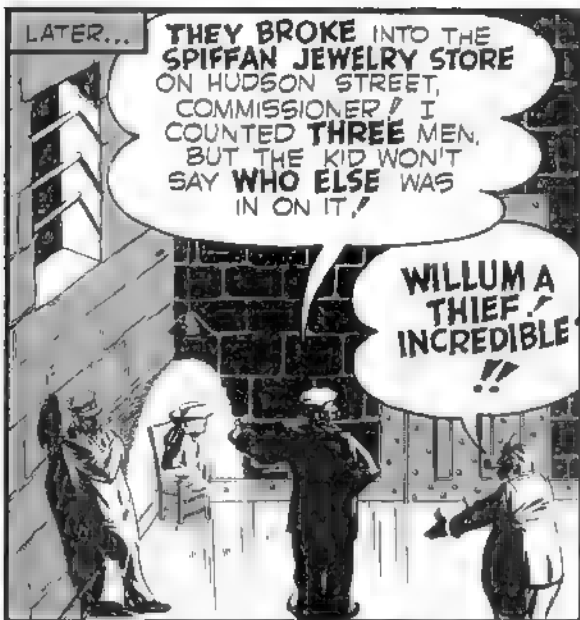
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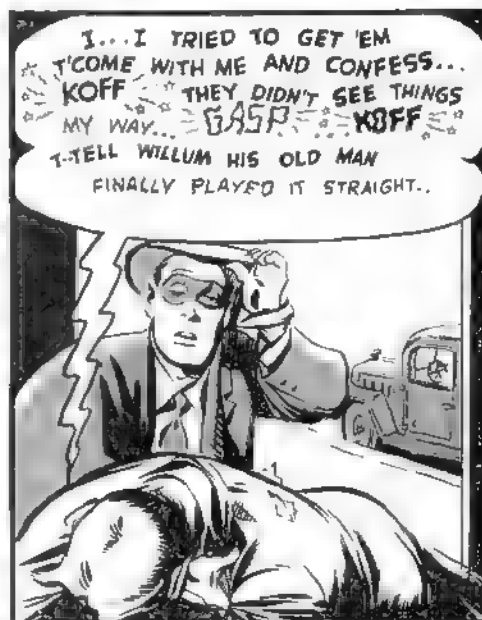
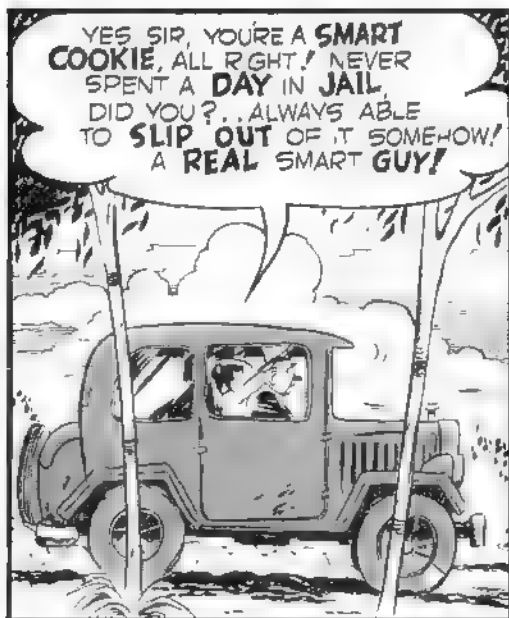
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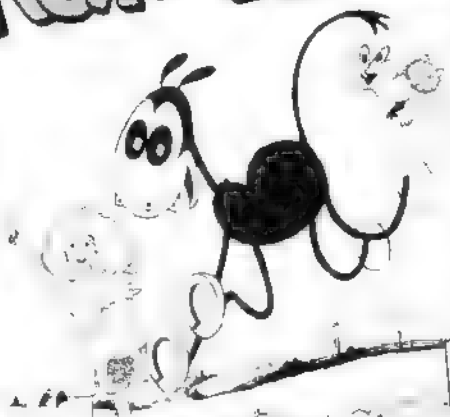
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# LETTERS

## SHE FOUND THE SPIRIT!

Geez, I must have been stoned, blind or stupid to have been involved with comics for eight years and somehow overlooked Will Eisner's *Spirit*. However, last month my eyes were opened as I read *Spirit* No. 29. Wow! I didn't think it would happen but Eisner's masked man made me care. For the first time I had read something that moved me enough to make me laugh and cry (sometimes at the same time) with the characters. After a steady diet of mass-produced standardized heroes force fed by major companies I became apathetic toward the comic book medium, collecting only out of habit. Not any more, though! I am a changed woman. The fact that the *Spirit* stories are more than thirty years old and are still entertaining also staggers me.

So, one month and \$118 worth of *Spirit* back issues later, I just had to thank Will for some of the most delightful hours of reading I've had in a long time.

Rose Loomis

513 Colgate Way, Placentia, CA 92670

## YES, T-SHIRTS ARE OFFICIAL

The "Origin of the Spirit" in No.36 added a new dimension to the black and white Spirit Bag reprint I have. Did the color come out as intended? The colors seem rather muted but I loved them that way. The muted colors gave a special atmosphere to the story.

I was greatly impressed with the new "Sentinels," as I have been with all of the "Big City" previews. It touched all levels of emotion and I just realized that not a word was spoken the entire 19 pages!

A few letters have complained about non-Spirit items in the magazine. I would love more *Spirit* reprints also, but I would greatly miss the Eisner "Big City" stories and the information in the articles and interviews. So I vote to keep things as they are.

Is Will getting a fair share from the T-Shirts advertised in the magazine? I want very much to order one but I refuse unless I'm sure the artist is not being ripped off, as has been the case in other instances. I think it would be good info to pass on to readers, some of whom may feel the way I do.

CTA1 Jerry Edwards

Box 498, Naval Security Group Activity; FPO New York, NY 09518

Jerry: The T-Shirts (advertised on this very page) are indeed authorized by Will Eisner. We would not allow advertising for merchandise that was not properly contracted for. We can recommend these lovely shirts highly. Everyone in our office wears 'em!

## SENTINELS & KURTZMAN

I like features like "Sentinels" in *Spirit* No.36. That was really fine! I also completely agree with the letter from Philip Smith — Harvey Kurtzman *should* have a new publication! I followed his E.C. work, *Trump*, and bought *Humbug* faithfully. Can Kitchen Sink chance bringing him back to us again?

Bill Noulon

Rounder Records, 186 Willow Avenue, Somerville, MA 02144

Bill: We're not sure we can steal Harvey from *Playboy* —but we are publishing *Goodman Beaver* by Kurtzman & Will Elder in early 1983 and plan to follow with Kurtzman's *Jungle Book*!

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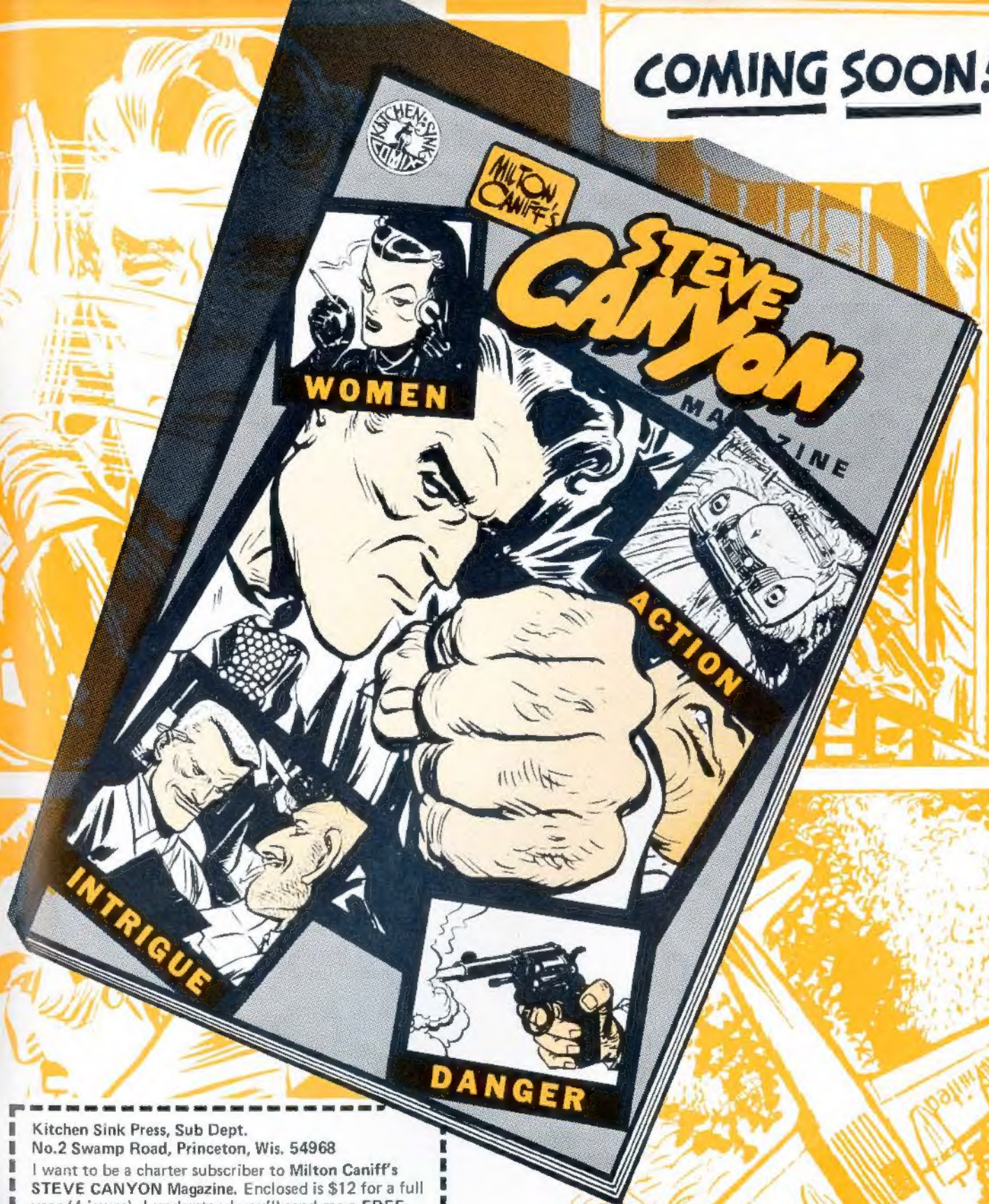
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